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A BAD FIX.

My wife and babies have gone off on a visit, and I, the melancholy head of the family, am sitting alone in my office. It was just such an evening as this, a year ago, that Ben Flagler rushed in upon me.

"I say, Phil, lend a fellow twenty-five dollars, will you, for a day or two?"

I proceeded to ascertain whether my financial condition was such that I could grant Ben's request, and while I was searching my pockets, he said:

'Of all evils under the sun, an empty pocket book is the chief. Thank you."

"I don't know about that, Ben," I replied, leaning back with a yawn. "Sometimes, you know, we have blessings in disguise."

"I should call an empty pocket book a pretty thoroughly disguised blessing," said Ben, sarcastically.

"Yes, I suppose so. But I had a little adventure once that your words put me in mind of. Sit down, if you would like to hear about it."

"Drive ahead!"

Ben lit a cigar and made himself comfortable by distributing different parts of his anatomy on two chairs and my writing-desk. The following was the tale I unfolded to his listening ear:

Some years ago I made preparations for a brief trip out Weston a prospecting tour. I bought a new suit of clothes, a new traveling satchel, and a new pocket-book. With these purchases I went to my room an hour before train time, and consequently the period remaining in which to equip myself was rather limited. But I worked fast, and succeeded in reaching the depot just in time to jump aboard the cars. They were not crowded, and I had no difficulty in procuring a seat. I leaned back with a feeling of complacency at my expeditiousness and good luck. It was eight o'clock in the evening, and just beginning to grow dark. The cars moved slowly out of the city, and the vanishing lights grew less and less frequent.

In due time, after we had got under full headway, the conductor came along. He was a fierce-looking, red-whiskered individual, and carried the usual round lamp, bunch of tickets, punch, and handful of bank notes.

"Tickets!" he roared, on entering the car.

"I'll have to pay you money," I said, when he came to me. "I was too late to buy a ticket. How much is it to——."

I suddenly paused with a choking sensation. I had taken out my new pocket-book, but on opening it, the glossy red leather of its different apartments glared at me with appalling blankness. No money was visible. I was too astonished to speak for an instant, and looked at the empty pocket-book helplessly.

"Tickets!" he repeated, nudging my shoulder.

How hopeless obtuse conductors can be when occasion requires it! I perceived that he was a man whom it wouldn't do to trifle with.

"Upon my word," I said, "this is strange. I don't seem to have a cent of money."

"Then you've no business on this train. Come, you'd better shell out."

"But my dear sir—"

"No use in wasting any words about it. How far do you want to go?"

"To Spunkville."

"Well, I can't waste my time talking with you. You'll have to get off at the next stop."

This was, to say the least, unpleasant. He had spoken in a loud voice, and walked on with an expression of wounded virute. I felt extremely uncomfortable, for I became speedily aware that public sentiment was against me. I knew from the looks and the suppressed conversation of the passengers that they regarded me as a swindler.

Two old maids, whose demeanor was almost supernaturally proper, cast occasional sidelong glances of horror at me; while a countryman who sat near, folded his arms and assumed a sagacious squint, as much as to say, "I know the ropes—You'd better not try to come any of your games on me!"

I knew that it would be of no use to explain that, in the hurry of changing my clothes, I had left my money in my old pocket-book, which I distinctly remember having thrown in a cupboard among a lot of old boots. No one would believe me. So I simply folded my arms, and gave myself up to gloomy meditations.

Not to go needlessly into particulars, I will only say that I failed to move the heart of the obdurate conductor. He said I must get off.

I got off. It was very dark, for the train, being a through express, did not stop till near midnight, and then only to take in wood and water.

I looked around after the train moved on, and saw dimly the long line of railroad track, a small round building looming up in the darkness, and a low woodshed which stretched out and was lost in the gloom a few yards ahead. The clouds were thick, and through them no glimmer from moon or star penetrated. I knew not which way to turn; I was in an unknown region.

All at once a footstep disturbed the silence. Welcome sound! I knew not whether it proceeded from a friend or foe, but I was glad.

A human form soon approached the shed.

"Hallooo!" I remarked, by way of making known my presence.

"He-yi! who's that?" The speaker stopped and stood still.

"I's I," I answered. "Where am I?"

"It's you, and where are you, hey? What do you want?"

"I want to find my way to some lodging-place," I replied, "I've been put off from the cars. I lost all my money."

"Oh ho! You ain't trying to come no gum-game, be ye? You'd better not, for I've got a revolver handy."

"Blast your revolver! If you're afraid go and stand behind the woodpile and tell me the way to the nearest tavern."

"Tavern? There ain't no tavern round here. This is only a wood and water station. I tend it. If you don't mind a good walk, though, you might go to old Seelye's, a couple of miles up the road.

I groaned in spirit.

"Who is old Seelye, and how am I to know his house?"

"He's a sort of a half-way farmer that sometimes takes in lodgers. You'll show the house by its bein' the first one beyond Col. Moggerton's."

"Colonel Moggerton's? Does he live thereabouts?"

"I should say that he did, somewhat. He's tol'bly well known heresbouts."

The man's tone was sarcastic, as if he pitied my ignorance in not knowing Col. Moggerton. But he was mistaken. I did know him, only I did not know where I was. Col. Moggerton was an old friend of our family. I had seen him several times at our house, where he had occasionally came on a flying visit. My father had also been a guest under the Colonel's roof—a pleasure I had never yet experienced. But I felt pretty well acquainted with him, and the news of his presence within such a short distance, came like balm to my troubled spirit.

"Two miles up this road, you say?"

"Yes, right straight ahead."

"Thank you. I would give you a dollar if I had it."

"My name is Pokey Hiland, pos office address, Gorton Hollow, if you feel very bad about it!" he shouted, as I hastened off, stumbling along a strange and unknown pathway.

I plodded along lustily through that long two miles. The prospect of meeting an acquaintance was unspeakably cheering; and notwithstanding I frequently collided with stumps, and made unpremeditated descents into ditches, I proceeded with cheerfulness unabating. I had little doubt of being able to find Col. Moggerton's house, for I had often heard it described as a large stone mansion.

In due course of time I reached my wished for destination. To my great joy it was lighted up brilliantly. The inmates had not gone to bed yet, and I would be spared the painful necessity of arousing them from slumber.

There was a high fence, a wide gate standing open, and a broad gravel path. I walked up a flight of stone steps, and stood before an open door. The spacious hall was empty, but from other apartments came the hum of voices. It must be that they had company. This thought was a little dispiriting, but I gave the bell a vigorous pull.

A blooming, pert-looking country girl at once appeared.

"Is this Col. Moggerton's residence?" I asked, as politely as I knew how.

"Right up stairs, sir, first door to the left," she replied, briskly, and then hastened away.

"Hold on a minute!" I cried, but she was out of hearing.

"My only alternative was to follow her direction, and so I went up stairs, first door to the left. On entering the room my suspicions as to what was going on were confirmed. Numbers of coats and hats were strewn about. Yes, it must be that they had a party. The girl had evidently taken me for one of the invited guests, and given me directions accordingly. After standing still for a moment reviewing the situation, I became suddenly aware that the room had another occupant. A young man was seated near the bureau, with rather a dejected expression on his face. He was looking whistfully at my handsatchel. As our eyes met he exclaimed:

"You haven't got such a thing as a fourteen paper collar with you, have you? I was trying to kiss Sal Withers down in the back yard, and she yanked mine off."

"Sal was to much for you, wasn't she? I think I can accommodate you."

"I came in on the cars. Is there a party here?"

"Yes. So you are not an invited guest, hey? Are you a friend of the Colonel's?"

"Yes. I just came up to give him a little surprise. I had no idea what was going on."

"I am glad you happened to be up here. I shouldn't have known what to do. You must show me around and introduce me a little."

"All right; come along."

We passed through the parlors and on into the dining-room. The apartment was all of a glow with merry faces, and fragrant with a long table of eatables.

The supper was finished in due time, and the other festivities commenced.

I was leaning against the railing of the front stoop in a moody frame of mind, when the colonel came along with hurried strides, bearing a chair in each hand.

"Colonel Moggerton," I said.

"Hey! what? Did you speak?" He paused suddenly and wheeled about, facing me.

"Yes, sir, I spoke. How do you do, sir?" I held out my hand.

"How do I—by Jove! if it isn't Bentley! Where did you come from?"

"From home. I thought I would make you a little visit. I didn't know you were having a party."

"Well, sir, I'm glad to see you. Have you met my daughter?" asked the Colonel.

"No—that is, I have not been introduced to her."

"We'll see to that at once, then. Come along."

He led the way into the parlor, and bade me follow him as he proceeded to search for Miss Moggerton. She was soon found, the center of a merry group, and her father dragged her forth.

"Kate, this is Mr. Phillip Bentley. You've heard me speak of his family. This is my daughter Kate, Mr. Bentley. There, now, make yourselves comfortable. I must go and see the folks in the library."

He strode off, leaving me face to face with the most lovely girl, I thought, whom I had ever met. She had a full, white face, brown eyes, and a fresh looking, though subdued, mouth. She was of medium height, with a form all graceful curves. I took all these points in at once, as I did, also, the soft, sympathetic feeling of her hand. The remaining time passed pleasantly, and finally, in the wee small hours, the party broke up.

"How came you to arrive at such a late hour last night, Mr. Bentley," asked Kate, the next morning.

"I didn't know exactly what time the train passed here," I said.

"The train? Did you come by the cars?"

"Certainly."

"But the night train doesn't stop at Shelby."

"Shelby? Where is that?"

"What a question. It is half a mile west of here on the railroad."

"I didn't come that way. I came from the place two miles south, where they stopped for wood and water."

"What's that?" demanded Col. Moggerton suddenly appearing from a path that was hidden by a close hedge. "What about the wood and water station?"

"I was merely remarking to Miss that I got off from the cars there, last night, and walked over here."

"And what the devil did you do that for, sir?"

I smiled uneasily.

"Why didn't you go to Shelby?"

"The train did not stop there," I replied.

"Why didn't you learn that before you started, and take some other train?"

This stern catechism was the opposite of reassuring. I timidly answered that I was not familiar with the neighborhood, and did not know that Shelby was the proper station at which to stop.

"Didn't your father give you instructions as to the route?"

"No sir."

"What a!—and didn't you ask him?" Good gracious! What a way of going at a thing. I hate blunders!"

"Father!" interposed Kate.

But I laughed weakly, and endeavored to feel highly pleased.

"I'll tell you how to proceed, if you ever come here again. Go straight to Shelby and walk over here if it's pleasant; if not, ride. It's only half a mile. The railroad takes a long curve, and two miles south of here is the watering station. Gad! you had a good walk, didn't you? Served you right!"

And the Colonel stalked off toward his barns.

"You mustn't mind father," said Kate. 'He has such a rough way of speaking, but—"

"Oh, certainly," I hastened to say; 'I like him all the better for it."

Then we sauntered about lazily, getting better acquainted every moment. I was confirmed and strengthened in my impression of Kate's loveliness, and the thought crossed my mind that I had never known and never would ask for any greater pleasure than thus walking by her side. She was so fresh and full of warm life, and yet so refined and graceful in every word and movement. And there was that indescribable emanation from her being that sometimes steals upon one softly and thrillingly, forming tangled meshes of attraction, from which there was no escape. I felt this in a general, indefinite way, and surrendered to the calm contentment of being with her.

Unconsciously our steps led us to the front of the house, and we strolled down the path toward the road.

A miserably clad woman, sweltering with heat and begrimmed with dust, approached. She held out her hand, and begged for alms.

"Oh, see that poor woman!" exclaimed Kate. "How dreadfully she looks!" She stared at her with pity.

I involuntarily put my hand in my pocket, for I felt it would be a fine thing to make a show of generosity before Kate. But a thrill of horror ran through me as I recollected that my pocket-book was empty! I am sure I turned pale. I prayed for some sudden gift of ingenuity to avoid the appearance of being close-fisted.

"She is probably a swindler," I said, quietly.

"Oh, no!" replied Kate, her face all aglow. "I think it is old Mrs. Brandon, from Shelby. They say she has eight children, and is in miserable health."

"We see so much swindling of the kind in the city," I said, "that it makes us rather skeptical."

"Yes, I know; but this woman is truly needy."

Kate looked at me expectantly, and I endeavored to maintain a calm air. It was a trying situation. I knew she expected me to give the beggar woman some money. After waiting a moment, Kate said, "I'll go and get my purse," and ran into the house.

That evening and the succeeding day passed without any occurrence worthy of notice.

On the following morning I announced my intention of walking to Shelby. Col. Moggerton offered to drive me over if I would wait until afternoon, but I preferred to walk in the cool of the morning.

It was a pretty little town, with nothing to distinguish it beyond the average American village. The air was hot, the streets were dusty, and the sun beat down steadily. I walked along, taking indolent note of everything, and seeking a barber shop. At last I spied a striped pole in the distance, and eagerly approached it, for I needed shaving sadly. A polite descendant of Ethiopia arose at my entrance.

"Shave, sir?"

I nodded and threw myself back in the barber's chair. The brush, full of cool, soothing lather, was applied to my face with a deft touch. I closed my eyes in contentment. Ah! A flood of recollections burst upon me. I had no money! How was I going to pay for the shave? I must do something quickly.

I leaped from the chair and exclaimed: "Hold on! There goes a man I must see! Excuse me now. I'll come in for my shave this afternoon."

I rushed to the sink and washed the lather from my face, and then ran out, wiping the water off with my handkerchief.

Once in the street I assumed as tranquil an air as possible. Noon came, but I felt no appetite, and so did not return to Col. Moggerton's. One, two, three o'clock were successively tolled out by the hoarse bell in the tall square steeple before I set out on my return. Then I had only just started when I met a vehicle containing the colonel and Kate.

"Were you going back?" asked Kate.

"Yes," I replied.

"Wait about an hour and ride back with us, won't you?" she asked, with such a look that I was at once beguiled into saying yes.

"Meet us at Sherman's dry goods store," she continued.

I bowed in assent and they drove on again. In due time I was at the appointed place of meeting.

"Isn't it fearful?" sighed Kate.

"What?" I asked.

"The heat."

"O, yes—certainly. It is very warm. I shouldn't have thought you would have ventured to town."

"Father had business here, and he always likes to have me ride with him. Besides, he said he would go into Morse's and get some ice-cream."

This was another blow at my feelings.

"I didn't know they had ice-cream saloons in such small places."

"O, yes; but I am afraid I will be cheated out of it, for he has got to talk with Lawyer Hard, and there is no knowing when he will get through."

I don't know that she intended this as a hint, but I took it as such. I am not going to attempt to convey in words an idea of the exasperated state of my mind. I was forced to stand there and make a weak show of conversing with her, without offering to take her father's place in escorting her to the ice-cream saloon. What must she think of me?

Minutes seemed like hours as we waited for Col. Moggerton. At last he came, and said hurriedly:

"I shall be engaged for some time with Mr. Hurd. You take Kate home, Bentley, and drive down for me in the evening."

"Yes, sir, with the greatest of pleasure," I responded, promptly, and immediately assisted Kate into the buggy. We were soon progressing in the direction of the Moggerton mansion, and gradually I recovered my ease. It would be impossible for one to remain long gloomy or taciturn while with Kate. We reached home in due time, and in the evening I returned for Col. Moggerton.

I resolved not to go to Shelby again; and declared, moreover, that I was afflicted with a disorder of the throat, for which the physician prescribed letting my beard grow.

One day I was about to start off on a fishing excursion, and was lingering under the trees with Kate, when a young lady entered the yard and approached us.

"If there isn't Rose Blake!" exclaimed Kate, starting up to greet her. "Why, Rose, how do you do? It's an age since I've seen you."

"Yes, but it's so dreadful hot to walk out here. How have you been, Kate?"

"Very well. Let me introduce you to Mr. Bentley. Mr. Bentley, Miss Blake."

We shook hands, and exchanged a few words, after which Miss Blake said:

"Now I must tell you the errand that brought me here. Our Sunday school, you know, needs a new library, and we are going to have a lecture by Gough, if we can sell tickets enough to make something. I thought perhaps your father would take some, and I am sure Mr. Bentley will."

She cast upon me an alluring look of appeal, which was of course irresistible.

"I shan't be here when the lecture takes place, probably," I faltered."

"O, that makes no difference. It will help us out the same, whether you attend or not. Just put your name down, and the tickets will be ready next week."

The matter ended by my subscribing for five tickets, though by so doing I was plunging into a difficulty beside which the others through which I had passed dwindled into significance.—What would I have to say when she presented the tickets?

Waiting until it was nearly dark, I whispered to Kate, as we sat in the parlor, that I had something to say to her.

"Please to come this way," I said; and as she rose, I drew her hand within my arm. I led her under the shade of a low-growing oak, that we might be out of reach of unobtrusive ear or eye. We sat down on a rustic bench.

"I hardly know how to begin," I said hesitatingly. "I presume you will think what I have to say very strange."

She turned her face towards me, but in the darkness I could not see its expression. She did not speak.

"Since I have been here," I continued, "I have been acting the part of a—well perhaps not a deceiver exactly, but—ah—"

"What can you mean?" asked Kate, in wonder, as I hesitated.

"To come to the point at once," I resumed, "I hope you will not despise me after what I say; but the fact is, I am going to ask of you what I never asked of a woman before." Here I hesitated again.

"Go on," she murmured.

Good heavens! what a world of suggestion there was in her word and tone! Was it possible that she though me possessed of assurance enough to speak thus early in our acquaintance of the subject nearest my heart? It could not be. Yet there was a possibility that such was the case. Suppose it were—would she tell me to "go on" in that way? My brain was in a frenzy of perplexity.

"Don't misunderstand me, Miss Kate," I said. "If you grant this favor to-night, and do not displise me, I shall endeavor to make myself worthy of asking a still greater one at some time. But to-night I only want"—my utterance was choked for an instant, but suddenly flinging off all hesitancy, I blurted out recklessly, "I want you to lend me a dollar!"

Kate gave a start of surprise, and then commenced laughing. What a long, hearty, maddening, laugh it was. In fact it provoked me a little, and this feeling brought with it self-possession.

"What are you laughing at?" I demanded.

"O, Mr. Bentley, please tell all about it. I know something was the matter. Was your pocket picked, or what?"

"Then you have noticed, have you?"

"How could I help it?"

"Well, I may as well make a clean breast of it," I said, and thereupon recounted my mishap and stupid blunder, and consequent trouble and embarrassments. She again laughed at me unmercifully, for which I did not care much, having got on such confidential terms with her.

"But the dollar—will you lend it to me?" I said, on concluding.

"O, certainly," she replied, starting to rise.

"Wait a moment," I exclaimed, with a sudden accession of spasmodic courage. "There is another thing I would like to speak of. Perhaps a better opportunity to talk it over will not occur."

She sat down by me, and we talked it over. It was a very commonplace matter—one that had been talked over by thousands and millions of men and women, and yet always with low voice, throbbing heart, and new, sweet interest. Need I tell you what it was?

It was subsequently discussed between us more fully, and, I may add, more coherently; and both Colonel Moggerton and my father seemed to be very well pleased.

The first investment I made with Kate's dollar, was to buy some stationery and postage stamps. I immediately wrote home to my brother John, requesting him by all that was sacred to send me twenty dollars, which he did without delay. When I got shaved, I treated Kate to ice cream, and bought the lecture tickets. Col. Moggerton never knew the story of my empty pocketbook.

Heigh-ho! Those things took place six years ago. I'll be glad when Kate and the babies come home!

BOB TOOMBS OF GEORGIA.

The Declining Years of a Brilliant Orator.

[Atlanta Correspondence New York Sun.]

Sitting in the rotunda of the Kimball House, the other day, idly watching the men who loitered in and out, my attention was directed to a portly gentleman, rather plainly dressed, who came in and seated himself on one of the settees with which the place is provided. He had the appearance of a well-to-do farmer, and seemed as if he might at one time have been a popular justice of the peace. His face was smooth and ruddy, and his whole appearance was rather jocund. In form he was inclined to the ponderosity of which Dr. Johnson speaks, and his massive head was almost lost in a great shaggy crop of hair. Settling himself comfortably, he fished a paper from the depths of his coat pocket and began to read.

Presently an acquaintance came along and accosted him with "How are you, general?" and then another, and another, until, in the course of half an hour, quite a crowd had gathered around him. He transferred his newspaper to his pocket again, and then for an hour he talked to those around him almost without ceasing. I said to myself, "This man is surely related to Bob Alston, of the Atlanta Herald, for it is not possible that Providence has endowed two families with such a sublime gift of gab." So I approached a gentleman upon the outskirts of the crowd, and said:

"Kind sir, will you inform me who that old gentleman is?"

The stranger glanced at me from head to foot, as if taking my measure for a mint julep, but he answered never a word. With a smile at once suggestive of surprise and sadness, he simply turned to a man on his right, and, in a low, mortified tone, said:

"John, here's a feller that don't know Bob Toombs."

"Goodgoddlemity!" says John.

And so this was Toombs, the aforetime leader of the United States Senate, and later the front of the secession movement. I could not for the life of me reconcile my impression of Robert Toombs with the garrulous old man sitting there flinging his pithy phrases into the pleased ears of the thoughtless men who clustered around him. If he ever possessed the haughtiness with which he has been credited, it is gone. If imperiousness sat in state upon his brow it has vanished.

With all his apparent bodily vigor, I thought I could detect certain unfailing signs of feebleness: and looking at him a little more closely, perhaps, than his little audience, it seemed to me that he had grown prematurely old. With wonderful glibness of tongue and vivacity of manner, there is, nevertheless, a certain indescribable air of nervous weariness about his conversation and his actions.—If I do not express myself very clearly it is because the impressions he made upon me defy analysis.

At one time in our history no name was more prominent in American politics than that of Robert Toombs. In the decade preceding the civil war, he towered pre eminent as the leader of the extreme southern element in the United States Congress. With an intellect almost exceptionally brilliant, and of great personal popularity, he led the Senate captive to his imperious will; and his speeches in those days relieved the Congressional Globe of a large portion of that preternatural dullness which seems to brood over publications of that class. These speeches are unique in their way. Buried as they are in the dust of political libraries, one can not read them even now without wishing that the career of their author had been something different. Here and there, surrounded by antithesis, epigramatic sharpness, and queer specimens of phrase building, one lights upon those marvelous flights of eloquence, fiery, impassioned, and classical, for which Robert Toombs was famous. His queer metaphors and phrases and his really brilliant offhand sayings are still quoted here, and there are some people in the south who will go to their graves labelled with some of Toomb's sarcastic inspirations. That was a pithy remark of his when, standing in the door of the Confederate Senate chamber, with his military cloak on his arm, he turned upon the assembled wisdom and said:

"You may make generals, but God Almighty makes patriots."

But the old days are no more. When Georgia seceded from the Union, Toombs resigned his seat in the United States Senate and went into the Confederate army, where he rose to the rank of Brigadier General. Of his record there little need be said beyond the fact that he was unfitted by training, education and taste for the duties of a soldier.

At the close of that struggle he went to Europe under the impression that a price was put upon his head, and to this day he calls himself an outlaw—a man without a country. For some time after his return from Europe he applied himself assiduously to his legal practice and to his farming interests, so that now he has quite a comfortable competence.

Don Carlos, the Spanish Pretender.

From London Society.

The present pretender to the throne of Spain, styled by his followers Charles VII., and by the world at large Don Carlos de Bourbon, Duke of Madrid, is twenty-five years of age, having been born in Austria, in March, 1848. He is a powerful-looking, dark-haired man, about six feet one, and of frank, somewhat curt manner. His face, since he began to wear a full beard, has become quite handsome, though a slightly slobbering aspect of his mouth, not being in harmony with his manly physical appearance, spoils somewhat the first pleasing impression. He is a man easy of access, without any trace of haughtiness; and when seen on horseback at a certain distance, especially when saluting people, and frankly taking off his basque cap, has something picturesque about him. His ways in private life remind one very much of those of a younger son of an English nobleman's family; that is to say, he would undergo for a while any amount of hardship with great serenity of temper. Of the sovereign, the statesman, or the warrior, there is absolutely nothing in him. But he is very fond of playing the part of a prince; that is to say, of lording it over everybody, in the old fashion of Spanish kings; not excluding even his counsellors, some of whom are three his age; and of surrounding himself with a large number of chamberlains, aides-de-camp, secretaries, and similar people, all of whom have no other merit, or duty, than that of flattering his pride. I saw myself genuine Spanish noblemen carrying away slops after Don Carlos had washed himself, and busily engaged in seeing that his top boots and spurs were properly polished.

He was, undoubtedly, a religious man, but there is much less bigotry about him than is generally supposed; and, for all I could observe, the Spanish clergy do not seem to exercise any undue influence on his mind. In fact, I have seen him marching for weeks without having a single cure on his staff or at his table; but in every village he comes to, he goes, first of all to the church and pays a visit to the local priest. Like the majority of Spaniards, he is a bad horseman, and in about a month's time I saw him ruin three excellent horses. At the same time, he likes very much to ride, and evidently thinks he looks like a fine cavalier; and so he does, with his glistening black beard, his dark blue hussar uniform, the stars on his breast, his red trousers, his high circus boots and his red cap with the golden tassel.

His political notions seem to be of a very unsettled character. At all events, each time I happened to talk to him, or listen when he talked to some one else, on political subjects, I was never able to make out what was the substance of his views. Sometimes he seemed quite a commonplace liberal of our own time; at other times his utterances seemed to be the produce of the most old-fashioned productions of Spanish absolutism. On the whole, I think he would make a pretty fair constitutional king were he properly restricted by law; for, having been educated in Europe, and having lived constantly under European influence, he has unconsciously imbibed the political ideas of our age. But, on the other hand, being in private life under the influence of family traditions, and basing his rights upon worn-out ideas, he has naturally conceived, with modern notions, others which would better suit the seventeenth than the nineteenth century. In the etiquette he likes to observe at his wandering court, and in the titles and court changes he distributes, these weaknesses of his come very clearly to light. As an individual he is very brave, very kind hearted; he is an excellent father; he is polite and amiable with everybody. He likes to sleep much and smoke much, and he is rather "henpecked" by Dona Margarita, Princess of Parma, whom he married in February, 1867, and by whom he has two daughters and a son.

How Vesuvius Operates.

[From a Letter by Jo Medill to the Chicago Tribune.]

No smoke such as that produced by the combustion of any carbon substances ever issues from the mountain. The seeming "smoke" is always steam or aqueous vapor, more or less dark as it happens to be charged with ashes. When this vapor condenses in the atmosphere, it descends in the form of rain; and, if much mixed with ashes, it falls in a paste or muddy shower. During great eruptions, when enormous quantities of ashes are ejected with thick clouds of vapor, they fall in torrents of mud and water. This is exactly what happened 1,800 years ago, when Pompeii, Herculaneum, Stabiæ and several other towns were destroyed by that awful eruption of A. D. 79. The tremendous heat in the bowels of the mountain, coming in contact with a great body of water from the Mediterranean Sea, which had percolated through the fissures of the stratified limestone and other rocks, with the internal fires, instantly acting on it like furnace-heat, converted it into steam. The sudden conversions of millions of cubic feet of water into high steam by the subterranean fires produced the phenomena of exploding steam on a vast scale.

The sudden and resistless expansion of water into 1,700 times its original bulk tore great rents and fissures in the sides of the mountain, through which, as the lowest points of exit, flowed heavy streams of melted lava; and from the crater itself, being the highest part of the mountain, and acting like a chimney, issued forth vast clouds of steam, mixed with sulphur-vapor and enormous quantities of ashes and showers of stones, which were flung out by the explosions of the water into steam. The fire that is seen above the crater during an eruption

IS NO FLAME,

But is the reflection of the molten lava within the crater upon the clouds of aqueous vapor and ashes suspended over it. The lightning which is seen darting from the edges of the black cloud is produced by the electricity which is the result of the rapid condensation of vapor into steam, under the effect of the heat radiated from the crater.

Previous to the great eruption of A. D. 79, which destroyed Pompeii, there had been a passive period extending back beyond recorded history. The Greeks had settled around the Bay of Naples 1000 years before that event, and their early writers had never heard of an eruption of Vesuvius.

Commodore Vanderbilt's Retaliation.

[From the New York Sun, April 20.]

The inhabitants of Peekskill having repeatedly petitioned for a new and better railroad station, Commodore Vanderbilt promised to erect an edifice that should be a credit to the town. Thereupon the town voted $30,000 to improve Center street, leading to the depot. But the Commodore required more land for the new structure, and a number of avaricious real estate owners refused to sell for less than $250,000. The Commodore offered 180,000, and his offer being rejected he set about the building of his new depot a mile out of town, thus spoiling the $30,000 Center street an, forcing the town to open a new street up a steep hill. Then in their wrath the inhabitants of Peekskill said that they would not ride on the railroad, but would travel in the boats. Again the Commodore retaliated, ordering all express trains to plunge right through Peekskill and only the way trains to pay any attention to the place.

Three of the detectives who undertook the job of arresting the Younger brothers of Missouri, dead or alive, have died by their hands already. Their chance of completing the work dead seems to be better than of accomplishing it while living.

RELIGIOUS.

At Mears, Mich., a church was erected in one day a few days ago, and dedicated the same evening.

The Pope proposes to raise the Catholic diocese of Milwaukee, Wis., to the dignity of an archbishopric.

A church in Nebraska includes a total membership of two women and one man. "Where two or three," &c., is their favorite text.

The number of Baptist churches in London is 127, with 29,135 members, against 27,225 members in 1873—a gross increase last year of 1,900, or a net increase of 911 members.

The Examiner and Chronicle is dissatisfied that Dr. Talmadge has been immersing a number of persons, saying his conduct "is contemptible in principle, and hardly falls short of profaneness."

Dr. Schaff writes: "Congregationalism is the ruling sect of the six Northern States, and has extended, and still exercises a beneficial influence upon the religious, social, and political life of the whole country."

The Rev. Theophile Charaux, Superior-General of the Jesuit mission in Canada, has addressed the Legislative Assembly of Quebec a petiton for the restoration of the property anciently held by his Order, but some time ago sequestered.

The four cities of the United States in which the Baptists outnumber other denominations are Richmond, Chicago, Atlanta and Raleigh. They are strong in Philadelphia, Boston, New York, Washington and Louisville, but relatively weak in Baltimore, St. Louis, Memphis, Nashville, Mobile and Galveston.

The Norwegian clergyman who has outlived his capacity for active work is allowed to retire with an annuity charged against the income of his successor. There is also attached to each glebe a widow's glebe, which, in case of a rector's death, affords the widow a home.

A neat turn to a sermon often produces a more lasting effect than either logic or theology. Instance this: "My brethren, a man cannot afford to lose his soul. He's got but one, and he can't get another. If a man loses his horse he can get another; if he loses his wife he can get another; if he loses his child he can get another; but if he loses his soul—good-bye, John."

The last census of the Universalist Church, including the churches in Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, is as follows: Associations, 74; parishes, 954; families, 40,032; churches, 638, members, 27,709; Sunday School members, 54,532; ministers, 651; 657; valued at $7,345,447. The number of colleges, academies, and theological schools is 14, with an aggregate of 98 instructors and 1,105 students, and property worth $2,595,000.

On the subject of taxing church property, the Richmond (Va.) *Journal* says: "We are glad to see that church property is to be included in the new subjects of taxation. That is just and right. No one is more impressed than we are in the great work that the Christian Church is doing for the world. But there are vast properties held by wealthy churches that are now excused from taxes and used not to further religion but for show and display. We can see no reason why their owners should not pay for this as for other fixtures."

The London correspondence of the *Nation* has the following: "The Archbishops of Canterbury and York are said to be preparing some sort of bill for restraining the excesses of the Ritualist clergy. Meanwhile, I have had the curiosity to compare the Passion-tide services of the Roman Catholic Church with those in which certain Anglicans indulge, and I declare to you that the ceremonial of the old faith is simplicity itself compared with the decorations and appointments and the elaborate mise en scene of such places of worship as St. Matthias', Kensington, and St. Alban's, Holborn—both professing to conform to the Church of England."

The Independent supplies "A Strange Chapter in the History of Missions," which exhibits in an unenviable light the spirit of sectarianism which has been thrust into mission fields by the mission boards at home rather than carried there by the missionaries. In 1872, it appears, the missionaries in Japan organized their converts into a native Christian Church without the usual sectarian label. They sent home the results of their action and the favor with which it was received by the Japanese. But instead of being praised they were blamed by their several mission boards, and ordered forthwith to label their respective converts with the genuine sectarian labels. It was argued that, as the churches here had expended so much more, they must have something to show for it, and unless they could call their converts by their own sectarian names their could be nothing to show, no matter how many unsectarian native Christian churches there might be. But the "First Native Christian Church in Japan" refused to be disbanded at the beck of the sects, entered its protest, and continues to maintain its integrity.

The Man who Did Not Go to the Masked Ball.

[From the Oakland (Cal.) News.]

This young fellow had a soul above buttons, and he scorned the idea of wearing the conventional costume of the *bal masque*. But what should he wear? His brain seized upon the query, and shortly an idea was evolved. He chose the character of a monkey. The eventful evening was at hand; he went to his hotel and donned his disguise. Being a wealthy young man, or economical, it's all the same, he concluded to walk. His first achievement was to frighten a chambermaid nearly to death, and in the next hall his appearance gave a small child a fit. Reaching the street door, he boldly went forth clad in his snug-fitting suit, and playfully swinging his caudal appendage; but he had not proceeded far, when a little dog ran out and barked at him. This called out another dog, and soon another joined their ranks in the pursuit of the strange animal. Finally a bob-dog put in an appearance, and then the young man and his courage both took flight. The dogs had the best of it from the outset, and they soon ran their quarry to earth; in other words, the monkey man concluded that the better part of valor would be to climb a high board fence. He did that, and for two long hours he sat there in the cold night wind, before he was released from his embarrassing position by people passing within hailing distance.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN COURT.

Our readers are already familiar with the facts connected with the attempt of Democratic members of the Board of Education to seize the control of said Board for partisan (if not worse) purposes, and with the fact that proceedings were commenced in Court to prevent this attempted usurpation of power. In the Second Ward, Mr. SCHUMAKER had been sworn in as a member of the Board by Major DODD, he claiming to have been elected to fill a vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Gen. SWAYNE. In the Sixth Ward, Mr. RUSSELL claimed the seat of Mr. WILKIN, and was sworn in by DODD. In this case, WILKIN was appointed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. ROGERS, whose term of office extended until the spring of 1875. It was claimed by RUSSELL and his friends that WILKIN could only serve until the first election occurring after his appointment, while Mr. W. and his friends contended that the appointment entitled him to the position during the time for which his predecessor was elected.

The cases were taken up in the District Court yesterday, and resulted in the defeat of both SCHUMAKER and RUSSELL.—It was held that General SWAYNE'S resignation was not in due form; hence, no vacancy existed in the Second Ward at the time of the election. In the case of Mr. RUSSELL, it was held that no vacancy existed in the Board from the Sixth Ward, as Mr WILKINS' appointment entitled him to the position until the spring of 1875.

The other case, requiring DODD to show why he assumed to be President of the Board, having been elected by the votes of outsiders—RUSSELL and SCHUMAKER—fell with the other cases. General SWAYNE can assist in organizing the Board, and then a member can be appointed from the Second Ward to fill the vacancy occasioned by his resignation, should he resign.

Thus has ended a most disgraceful attempt to prostitute the educational interests of the city to partisan purposes. The conduct of the Democratic members in withdrawing from the Board and attempting to organize independent of the old members, was only surpassed in reckless disregard for the rights of others by the want of self-respect which could alone induce men to vote themselves into petty official positions.

Every friend of our schools must rejoice at this speedy overthrow of the tricksters who sought to convert the Board of Education into a political organization for partisan purposes. The action of these men should impress upon our citizens the duty of electing as members of the Board of Education only those who have sufficient intelligence to appreciate the importance of the position, and sufficient honor to protect the good name of the city against a repetition of the disgraceful scenes enacted by DODD and his Democratic associates.

THE LICENSE SYSTEM.

We are in constant receipt of evidence showing that the license system of regulating the traffic in ardent spirits is daily becoming more popular with thoughtful friends of temperance. Men who have for many years felt disposed to use their influence in opposition to license and in favor of prohibitory laws, are now well convinced that the evil of intemperance is one which cannot be crushed out by a single legislative act. Experience has demonstrated the fact that laws cannot be enforced unless they are rooted in a strong public sentiment, and where statutes aim to prohibit an evil and yet remain a dead letter, they operate to encourage and stimulate the vice at which they are aimed. As all experience demonstrates the fact that prohibitary laws cannot be enforced in this country at present, the question with all practical friends of temperance and of humanity is, how can we accomplish the largest amount of good?

The Wauseon *Republican*, in an article calling attention to the action of the Constitutional Convention on the temperance question, takes decided grounds in favor of the license system, giving the following strong reasons for its position:

The laws of Michigan for the past two or three years have been prohibitory, yet in nearly every town in the State all kinds of drinks have been set out as freely as in Ohio, where the laws permit the sale of liquors, except to minors, habitual drinkers, or those under the influence of liquor. With Michigan's example before us, and with the thousand and one channels through which liquor can be procured by those who desire it, even under prohibition rule, we are firmly inclined to the belief that a stringent license law would as closely approximate to prohibition as a prohibitory law itself. To all those who cry out in horror at the idea of "licensing crime," we most respectfully submit the question; Is it for the greatest good to the greatest number that we are aiming at in dealing with the whisky question? If we are answered in the affirmative, we have only to refer to two neighboring States, Indiana and Michigan, to effectually illustrate the results of the different systems. In Indiana they have a strict license law in force, and except in the cities and an occasional village, the traffic of liquor is entirely abolished. All the smaller villages are wholly free from whisky or beer houses. While in Michigan, under prohibitory laws, whiskey and beer have flown as free as water. These are living examples, and should not be overlooked by us, when called upon to decide the question in our own State. If by "licensing" the crime of vending spirituous liquors has the effect of doing away with the evil itself, we should, as good citizens, forget our prejudices and give the measure a hearty support.

The experience in Indiana and Michigan should go far towards pointing out the duty of friends of temperance in Ohio; especially since that experience is corroborated by the results of similar laws in other states. Ignorant fanatics may and will cry out against "licensing a crime," not knowing that only that is "crime" which the law declares to be so, and sane persons may be frightened away from duty by this kind of talk; but thinking, practical men and women will accept the lessons of experience and act in accordance with the light thus afforded.

RAILWAYS.

Bowling Green & Toledo.

We have already referred to the fact that a certificate of incorporation has been filed with the Secretary of State for the Bowling Green & Toledo Railroad Company, with a capital stock of $40,000. It seems to be the purpose of those engaged in this project to build a narrow gague road, or to extend the Toledo & Maumee narrow gague to that place. There is some talk of crossing the river at Waterville, but since there are abutments already up for a bridge at Maumee, it will probably, if built, cross at that point. We believe no steps beyond the filing of the certificate of incorporation have been taken.

Wheeling & Lake Erie.

At a meeting in Norwalk on Thursday evening of last week for consultation with reference to extending aid to this Road, there was some talk as to the propriety of running the Road directly from Norwalk to this city. G. T. STEWART, Esq., in referring to the progress of subscriptions and work on the line of the Road, said, according to the *Reflector's* report, that between Wheeling and Lodi the line had been mainly determined upon, and the road was being built. Lodi is in Medina county, about 35 miles from Norwalk. From Lodi the line is to be run either to Huron or Sandusky, depending somewhat upon the respective action of those places. Three competing lines are talked of. One *via* Wellington and Wakeman; a second *via* Wellington and Norwalk; and the other *via* New London and Norwalk. It is claimed that the first has an advantage over the second of two miles, and over the third of four miles in distance, though he was not sure of that. The design of the company is to put the north end of the line from Orville, in the coal region, to the Lake, in operation first, and as the contractor is to have the profits of the road for all the time to the expiration of two years from the beginning of the work, it will of course be for his interest to push matters right through after once commencing. Judge Cochrane, Secretary of the Company, in the course of his remarks, said:

It is a direct route from Wheeling to Toledo. The grades are easy, and the course of most of the rivers met is northwest, corresponding with the course of the road. Coal, limestone, black band ore and fire clay are particularly abundant. It is only 56 miles from Norwalk to the coal beds, and then for 87 miles the road traverses the coal region. At the northwest end the lumber, grain, fish, &c., will furnish abundance or freight in return for the mineral wealth of the southeast end. It will cross no less than *nine* railroads in its course, so that connections will be ample.

This work will be pushed forward energetically, the contractor promising to be on the ground early in May with a large force. Norwalk will scarcely permit this opportunity for securing a most important element of future prosperity to pass unimproved.

☞ In referring to the proposition of the Constitutional Convention to submit the license question to a vote of the people, the Cleveland *Leader* says:

The adoption of this substitute will give the whole question of license or no license back to the people of Ohio to be decided by a popular vote. Should this happen, there will ensue one of the most important and exciting campaigns ever witnessed in this State. Probably two-thirds of the people who have taken part in or sympathized with the temperance crusade, are opposed upon principle to any form of license, however strict. To them would be opposed a strong body of voters, men of temperate habits and good character, who abhor drunkenness, but think that a rigid license law will be the best and most effective form of restraint that can be put upon what they regard a necessary evil. The pro-license party would be, of course, re-enforced by what is known as the liquor interest, although there are among the saloon men many who would oppose the license law as a statute which would prove most expensive and difficult to avoid. It is probable, therefore, that the real struggle over the liquor question in Ohio, so far from being at an end, is just fairly begun.

TOTAL ABSTINENCE MOVEMENTS.

The Duty of Masonic Bodies Set Forth by the Grand Master.

OFFICE OF THE
M. W. GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN OHIO.
STEUBENVILLE, O., April 18, 1874.

To the W. M., Wardens and Brethren and each Masonic Lodge in Ohio:

DEAR BRETHREN—I am daily in the receipt of communications from brethren in different portions of our jurisdiction, in regard to the duties of Masons and lodges in connection with the movements for the suppression of the evils of intemperance, which have been inaugurated and are now being carried on throughout the State of Ohio; and inasmuch as I am unable to reply to all of these communications in the ordinary manner, I feel it to be my duty to send to you this circular letter, in which my views are briefly, and, I hope, clearly expressed.

That the evils of intemperance are among the greatest with which the earth is cursed, is not to be denied. Intemperance in the use of alcoholic drinks is evil only, and evil continually, without a single palliating circumstance, or a particle of benefit to counterbalance or counteract it. It is productive of wretchedness, ruin, crime, misery, starvation, and moral and physical death.

Temperance is one of the cardinal virtues. It should be the constant practice of every Mason, as he is thereby taught to avoid excess, or contracting any licentious habit, the indulgence of which may induce him to violate his vows, betray his trust, or lead himself, his family and the fraternity into disgrace, reproach and ruin.

Drunkenness is a crime, not only against the precepts and rules of our Order, but against the laws of God and municipal authorities. In all ages of the world it has been regarded as an evil of the first magnitude, and the labors for its suppression have occupied the most earnest efforts of all moral and religious associations. In these efforts our Order has taken a conspicuous part, not, however, in public demonstrations; but within the recesses of our lodge rooms, and by means of the fraternal bond which unites us into a society of brothers, have we endeavored to inculcate correct principles, and to guide the steps of our brethren from the path of danger.

As in days past, so should it be now. If we see a brother in danger of falling a victim to the curse, we should visit him as brethren; reason with him in kindness; point out to him the path of duty as well as that of danger; endeavor by all our powers of persuasion to induce him to forsake his ways and return to the path of rectitude. And, above all, should our *example* be such that any man might be proud to follow it. We cannot be too guarded in this particular. Example is greater than precept, and the lives of our brethren should be such that reproach can never be cast upon them. We should, indeed, seek rather by both precept and example to preserve our brethren in the paths of rectitude, than to permit, in the slightest degree, their feet to wander in the path of danger.

While urging the members of our fraternity to vigilance in maintaining the principles and character of the Order by correct deportment and pure lives, I urge upon you the necessity of a liberal exercise of Masonic charity toward each other. No man is perfect. Perfection on earth has never been attained; it certainly will not be in our day. You may, and will, differ in your views upon every great moral or political question which agitates the minds of the people; and even while agreeing upon the object to be attained, you will differ as to the means by which it shall be accomplished. It is your right to so differ. Who has set one man up to be the judge of another's motives? While as men and citizens we exercise our inherent rights of free thought and free action, upon all the questions of the day, let us as an Order—as lodges—refrain from all entangling alliances with any and every society, organization, and specific method of producing reformation. As lodges, it is unwise, in my opinion, to pledge, by resolution or otherwise, our support and influence to any particular organization having for its object the suppression of evil; but rather by our action we should endeavor to instill into the minds of our members correct principles, and by example inspire them to correct deportment, that others, seeing their worthy works, may be induced to follow their example.

In times of excitement it is natural for men to endeavor to bring to bear every influence in favor of their cherished objects. Need we wonder that our Order is no exception to the rule? The influence of our Order would, for the time being, be felt in favor of any object to whose support it is pledged; but in all measures not strictly Masonic, such pledges will undermine the foundation upon which the Order stands, and in the end be productive of its ruin. The wisdom of the regulation which prohibits political and religious discussions in our lodges has been apparent for ages, we cannot afford to depart from it now in the slightest particular. In times of popular excitement, when prejudice and contention hold high carnival, it is of the utmost importance to Masonic lodges that they refrain from any public demonstration in favor of either of the contending parties. Let me urge you, then, to vigilance in the discharge of your duties as Masons; that you teach and practice all the virtues; that you be temperate, prudent and discreet, in all your actions, and that you fail not in the exercise of that charity for the views and opinions of others which you would be pleased to receive for your views and actions from them; that the prosperity and usefulness of the Order may be maintained, and no discordant note mar the harmony which should be found in our Mystic Temple. And rest assured, that while we adhere to the principles of the Order, there will be no necessity for defining, by elaborate resolutions, the position of the fraternity upon any question which claims a portion of the attention of the public.

With fraternal regards, I am, yours truly,

ASA H BATTIN, Grand Master.

The Constitutional Convention.

The Constitutional Convention on the 30th ult., passed to the third reading the following alternative proposition to be voted on separately by the people: First, License to traffic in spirituous, vinous or malt liquors under such regulations and limitations as shall be proscribed by law may be granted, but this section shall not prevent the General Assembly from passing such law to restrict such traffic, and to compensate for injuries resulting therefrom. Second, No license to traffic in intoxicating liquors shall hereafter be granted in this State, but the General Assembly may by law restrain or prohibit such traffic as may provide against the evils resulting therefrom.

Has Outlived its Usefulness.

[From the Cincinnati Gazette.]

The very best thing the Constitutional Convention could do on the question of licensing the traffic in liquors will be to do nothing; but it will be sure to do something where nothing would be better. We took a good deal of interest in the Convention for a while, but it has outlived its usefulness. The Convention is altogether too big, and the members know too much, or think they know a great deal more than the people they are supposed to represent. Constitutional Conventions must soon have an end. This should be the last to assemble in Ohio. The better way to revise the Constitution would be to have a commission of twelve or twenty men for that purpose. Michigan tried the convention plan, and it failed. Then it tried a commission, and the latter did the work satisfactorily while our convention was organizing.

Ohio Fruit Prospects.

The Hocking *Sentinel* says the frost has not killed the fruit thus far and the prospect for a large crop was never better.

In Delaware county all kinds of fruit trees have an abundance of buds, and the prospect for a large yield is reported very promising.

Advices from all parts of the Scioto Valley denote that the fruit is in excellent condition, and that the wheat never looked finer.

The Ohio Valley *News* says it is believed that the peach buds in the neighborhood of Martin's Ferry have suffered badly from recent frosts.

WAITING IDENTIFICATION.—On Tuesday last, an unknown man, seemingly a traveller was run over and killed by a train of the Lake Shore Railway at Hamburg. The wheels of a train had evidently passed over the man's head, as the skull was crushed almost to a jelly. Nothing was found on the body with the exception of a hand-bill. Previous to the discovery of the corpse four suspicious looking men were observed lurking about the place, and they probably rifled the clothes of the deceased. The man was about 40 years old, with a heavy sandy moustache, and brown hair tinged with gray. He was five feet ten inches in height, and was dressed in a suit of dark clothes. New socks and gaiters newly tapped covered the feet. The body awaits identification at Buffalo.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TROUBLE.—At last the dissensions in the Board of Education have been brought before the District Court for settlement. The *quo warranto* proceedings were opened this morning before their Honors, Judges LANE, BOYNTON and PRENTIS.

Upon the Court docket they are entered as follows: "On relation of Alfred Wilkin vs. John Russell;" "On relation of J. D. Ford, Prosecuting Attorney of Lucas County, vs. John Shumaker," and "On relation of Chas. W. Hill vs. Ezra S. Dodd."

The plaintiffs are represented by Messrs. Geo. R. Haynes and J. C. Lee, and the defendants by C. H. Scribner, Esq. Considerable interest is manifested in the proceedings, and the Educators and those interested in the advancement of "book larn'in," are out in force, to lend countenance to which ever side of the contest their convictions lead them to espouse. At the time of going to press, Mr. Scribner was addressing the Court.

VOLUNTEER FIREMEN.—The glorious old days when the volunteer Fire Department was in vogue, and when "running with the machine" constituted one of the chief pleasure of life, are at an end with us, but elsewhere the interest is kept up, and in the neighboring towns, "Mose" is a peer among the many.

The annual meeting of the State Volunteer Firemen's Association will be held in the Opera House, Youngstown, Thursday, May 14th. The appointment of delegates is governed by Art. IV, of the Constitution of the Association, which provides that each organization or company of Volunteer Firemen of 50 men or under shall be entitled to one vote; companies of over 50 men, two votes.

Those desirous of information relative to the meeting, should address A. Smith, Corresponding Secretary, Youngstown, or S. T. A. Vanscriver, President, Norwalk.

THE ANTAGONISTIC EDUCATORS.

Quo Warranto Proceedings in the District Court—Dodd finds Chas. W. a Hard Hill to Climb—Legal Light—The Court's Action.

The trials and tribulations which have attended our educators of late, as growing out of the ambition of certain ones, are drawing to a close, thanks to the strong arm of the law, which has interposed. Dodd has for once, at least, placed a wrong construction on educational statues, and as a very natural sequence, he found he'd got his foot in it. The "living dead man" was alive to the legal requirements of the case and proved too many for the Major. Think of a warrior's being forced to succumb to inanimate clay. For shame! Paradoxically speaking, the vital spark is not essential to singular and marked vitality.

Yesterday forenoon the District Court took up the Board of Education matter.

On the 23d instant

QUO WARRANTO PROCEEDINGS

were commenced in this court to judicially determine the right of Messrs. Schumacher and Russell to their seats in the board, and also requiring them, as well as the seceding school directors, to appear and answer by what authority they arrogate to themselves the power of, and assume to act as, members of the Board of Education of the city of Toledo.

The regular board was represented by George R. Haynes, Esq., and Hon. J. C. Lee as counsel, and the seceding solons by Hon. C. H. Scribner and Ira Lee, Esq.

THE ARGUMENT OF THE CASE

before the court was opened by Mr. Haynes, who set forth the facts in and relating to the case of Wilkin vs. Russell. The claim was made that the action of the Mayor in ordering an election was illegal, therefore the election itself was null and void; and furthermore, there was no legal information or certificate that such an election had been held.

The case of the State of Ohio, on the relation of the Prosecuting Attorney vs. Schumacher, being almost parallel, was next heard, that both might be argued and decided together.

Mr. J. C. Lee then argued that

GEN. SWAYNE'S RESIGNATION

from the board, as member from the Second Ward, *did* not create a vacancy. He addressed his letter of withdrawal to the Mayor, who is not a member of the School Board, and in no wise connected with its workings. Furthermore, that in nothing had General Swayne's letter of withdrawal come up to the legal requirements, and was therefore of neither force nor effect.

Hon. C. H. Scribner, as counsel for the respondents, first dealt with the question of membership as relating to Messrs. Wilkin and Russell.

By Section 10 the Board of Education was empowered to double the number of members, as it was provided in other sections that such members may be elected by the people, and the Board could then determine by lot whether the number should be increased or diminished. This was to be determined at the organization of the Board on the third Monday of April.

The resignation of Gen. Swayne was legal in its effect and it was not essential that it should be addressed to the Board of Education. There was no law to compel this.

The arguments of counsel were full and embraced a general review of all legal points bearing upon the case. Upon their conclusion the Court retired for consultation, and after an hours absence rendered the following decision.

DECISION OF THE COURT.

In the case as submitted upon these proceedings in quo warranto we have considered the questions, and believing them to be narrowed down to one or two points, we have reached the conclusion, which I will now proceed to announce. It seems to us that the resignation of Gen. Swayne of the office of a member of the Board of Education, attempted to be made some time in the month of March, cannot be considered as such; at all events we think there could have been no election for his successor, on the day of the regular election, unless there was a vacancy in that office; that it was not competent for him to say, that if the electors of his Ward saw fit to elect his successor, he would resign; that was no resignation; that without considering to whom the resignation should have been made, his resignation was couched in langurge as follows "I beg leave to tender my resignation, as a member of this Board to take effect when my successor is elected and qualified." He proposed to create a vacancy; as soon as his successor should be elected and qualified, his resignation should then take effect. We are of the opinion that that had no tendency to create a vacancy.

We are further of the opinion that there was no vacancy at the time of the Spring election, and this not only upon the authorities cited, but also upon principle; and it seems clear to us, that there must have been a vacancy in view; and also, that any steps taken to elect anybody in his place are void.

In the other case the question involves steps taken by the Legislature upon the 30th of March, 1874, and together with some preceding acts, the laws under which the Board was organized. It is claimed that it was organized on the 9th of March, 1849, by virtue and under the provisions of the so-called Akron law. It is provided by the 11th section of that act, that the election of School Directors shall be held on the 2d Tuesday of May next, at the Council Chamber, and annually thereafter.

It seems that Mr. Rogers was elected in pursuance of this act, on the second Tuesday of May, 1872; that he died on the 13th of May, 1873, and that Mr. Wilkin was appointed to fill that vacancy on the 24th of May in the same year, and that his term of office would have expired upon the second Tuesday in May, 1874, unless extended by the provisions of the act of March 30, 1874; and that depends upon the construction to be given that act.

It also provided that in city districts of the first class, village districts or special districts (and it is conceded that this is a city district of the first class) organized prior to May 1, 1873, (and it was organized in 1849) under a general or special act that would have organized or required an election of a member of members of the Board of Education, to be held between the time of the taking effect of said act of May 1, 1873, and that time was between that day and the first Monday in April, 1874, if a city district of the first class, or a village district, and in the second Monday in April, 1874, if a special district, each member of the Board of Education shall be continued in office until the Monday in April, succeeding the day on which said term of office would expire according to the law under which said District was organized, or until his successor shall be elected and qualified. It will be observed that the provisions of this law do not say that a member of the Board of Education, elected as distinguished from a member appointed, shall continue in office.

The term of office of Mr. Rogers would have expired in May, 1874, by virtue of the act under which he was elected. It is provided here that each member of the Board of Education of a city district of the first or second class organized prior to May 1, 1873, shall hold his office to the third Monday in April, 1875. We understand that as Mr. Wilkin acquired his office under the act of May 1, 1873, he also acquired office and held under the act of March 30, 1874, and it would be giving a strange construction to the act of March 30, 1874, to say that anything else was intended by that act. It seems to us that the effect of this act is to postpone the termination of his office until this period expires; and we also hold that the election held to fill that office in his place was illegal, as there was no vacancy to be filled. This conclusion is obviously necessitated by the construction of the forty-third section, and a judgment of ouster, in the one case, will therefore be ordered.

In the Shumaker case, the admitting into office or acceptance of Shumaker as a member of the Board, was simply treating him as having been duly elected at the Spring election, and we hold that in receiving him as a fellow member of the Board, they accepted him in the belief on their of his having been duly elected, and that it was not intended as an appointment by the Board. We therefore enter a judgment of ouster in each case.

GRAND FINALE.

A third case had been entered upon the Court docket, entitled Hill vs. Dodd, to determine the question of Presidency of the Board of Education. But as the claims of Mr. Dodd rested upon the legality of the claims to office of Messrs. Shumaker and Russell, which had been decided adversely, there was no case left to try.

The Major retired from the Court room subdued, and meek as the sheep that Mary owned, and once more harmony reigns in the halls of education.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS.

Henry County.

TRAGEDIES AT NAPOLEON—"CONFIDENCE MEN"—GRAIN AND FRUIT PROSPECTS, &C.

EDITOR BLADE:—This shire town of Henry county will soon rank, in some respects, as a city of the first class. On Tuesday last, a young butcher, named George Hollingshead, rushed out of his employer's meat market, armed with a cleaver, and entering an adjoining grocery store, assaulted Charles Watters, late Marshal of this city, and with one blow of his murderous implement cut through the skull of Watters, exposing his brain. At this hour the man is yet alive, but all hopes of his recovery are abandoned by attending surgeons. The young murderer effected his escape, and no effort appears to have been made for his arrest. So far as I am advised, the homicide was unprovoked.

On last evening an old man and an old citizen, aged about 60 years, named Adams, formerly a school teacher and very competent but of late years somewhat dissipated in his habits, disregarded the approach of an eastern bound freight train by maintaining his position on the track, and was struck by the pilot, resulting in instant death, and a repulsive and frightful mutilation of his body. It is generally believed that he was under the influence of liquor though others controvert this theory.

The detective force at the Island House, Toledo, forwarded last evening a telegram to the town authorities of Napoleon, advising them that an instalment of four "sneak thieves" would probably get off the passenger train due at 9:35. The officers were on the alert and the movements of the quartette closely reconnoitered, and after some opportunity was offered to disclose beyond question their identity and true character, the Marshal seized the confidence gang and conducted them to quarters in the calaboose. Who will say that in the matter of tragedies and crimes Napoleon is not approaching first class.

By the way, this Vecke House, under the present management of L. C. Taylor, and Dwight H. Whedon, clerk, (the latter recently the popular clerk of the "Exchange" at Columbus,) is an "A No. 1" place for travelers.

Notwithstanding the cold and backward spring, the wheat fields that escaped the unfavorable winter weather, look promising. So also of the meadows, and the buds, of which there are an unusual abundance upon the fruit trees, are thus far unscathed.

The general business of the country appears to be improving. M. V.

April 30th, 1874.

Weston.

EDITOR BLADE:—The Mansfield & Coldwater Railroad project gave a very strong impulse to the population and business interests of this place. Notwithstanding the apparent collapse of that railroad scheme from the swindling operations of those who formerly controlled it, the prosperity of Weston does not seem to be in any manner affected thereby.

About fifty new buildings have been erected during the two previous years, together with a flouring mill which is regarded as a first class institution, and also a planing mill. There are several business houses and all seem to be prospering.

An excitement has been created here, arising from the fact that the Mansfield & Coldwater Company have begun suit in the Wood County Common Pleas Court against several prominent citizens, to enforce the payment of the balance of their subscriptions to that road. These gentlemen are quite ready to pay the balance of their subscriptions when an inclination shall be shown by the company to complete their contract of finishing the road. If that is not done they consider that they have been sufficiently swindled already. The courts of justice seem also to be of that opinion, as in a test case, in which the Brown estate had been sued for unpaid subscriptions, the Wood county Common Pleas Court has decided against the Company, and on an appeal to the District Court, recently held at Tiffin, that decision was affirmed.

April 30, 1874. N. H. C.

Edgerton.

ORDINATION CEREMONIES.

EDITOR BLADE:—The Congregational Church of Edgerton has been for several years almost dead, and has been hardly counted one of the spiritual forces working in this flourishing village. But since a meeting of the Toledo Conference, held with them last August, they have been very much strengthened and encouraged. At that time arrangements were made to give them preaching once a month, and soon after Mr. S. W. Dickinson, a recent graduate of Bangor Seminary, Maine, providentialy came among them. Through the winter he has preached with acceptance to a congregation of two hundred or more, and during the same time the membership of the church has doubled. A Council of Congregational ministers and churches was called by the church, and assembled on Tuesday last to examine and ordain Mr. Dickinson. The examination was long and careful, and unanimously sustained by the Council, who voted to proceed to ordination in the evening. At the appointed time the exercises took place, before a large and attentive audience.

The Moderator, Rev. Geo. Barnum, of Wauseon, presided. The minutes of the Council were read by Dr. James Raymer, of East Toledo, and the opening exercises were conducted by Rev. E. Andrews, of Angola, Ind. The sermon was preached by Rev. F. W. Dickinson, of Wauseon, brother of the candidate, from Luke 8: 18, and was a careful and interesting presentation of the Reformatory Power of the Gospel in the World. The Ordaining Prayer was made by Rev. J. F. Ellis, of the Washington street church, Toledo; the Charge by Rev. J. G. Fraser, of East Toledo, and the Right Hand of Fellowship by Rev. G. H. Bailey, of Toledo.

EDGERTON, April 29, 1874.

TO PATRONS!

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NOTICE.

The heirs devisees and legal representatives of Jesse Hawley, whose names and places of residence are unknown, and William Job, will take notice that on the 27th day of March, 1874, Frederick Domrose filed his petition in the Court of Common Pleas of Lucas county, Ohio, against them, alleging that he is owner and in possession of south 30 acres of west half of northwest quarter section 17, town 2, U. S. R., Lucas county, Ohio, and in possession thereof, and that defendants, who appear to have some interest or title therein, but in fact, have no interest, and praying that they may be barred therefrom, and that his title may be quieted to said land. Defendants are required to answer on or before May 25th, 1874.

BISSELL & GORRILL, Att'ys for
FREDERICK DOMMROSE.

WAITE & WILLIAMS,

73 Madison Street, - - - TOLEDO, O.

Plumbers, Gas and Steam Fitters,

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For Wrought Iron Pipe, Boiler Tubes, H. B. Smith & Co.'s Patent Low Pressure Steam Heating Apparatus, Knowles' Steam Pumps and Halliday's Patent Wind-Mills.

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New Photograph Gallery.

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W. E. MCKECKNIE wishes to announce to the citizens of Toledo and surrounding country, that he has Opened a Gallery of Photography and Fine Art at the above place, and has secured the assistance of Mons. O. Bakeer, one of the most eminent Artists in this country. All Styles of Photographs made, plain, or finished in India Ink, Water or Oil Colors. Old Pictures carefully copied. Satisfaction guaranteed in all cases.

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BOOTS AND SHOES,

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Their new Spring Stock has just arrived. The Largest Assortment in the City to select from. Every quality of BOOTS and SHOES can be found at the MAMMOTH STORE, cheaper than any other House in the City. If you want to save from 25 to 50 per cent. on your purchases, don't forget the place, the

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THE BEST BLOOD IN OHIO.

THE SPLENDID STALLION

Mansfield Golddust

Will Serve a Limited Number of Mares at

OAK GROVE FARM,

(NEAR TOLEDO,)

In Adams Township, Lucas County, Ohio,

At $15 to Insure.

For the Single Leap, $10.

DESCRIPTION:

MANSFIELD GOLDDUST is a Blood Bay with black points, and was foaled in May, 1868. He stands 16 hands high, is well Muscled, very Stylish and Symmetrical in form with fine trotting action. He took the FIRST PREMIUM at two years old, over all others in Kentucky. Took the First Premium at the Ohio State Fair in 1872, over 18 Stallions of all ages, and has taken the First Premium wherever exhibited since he was two years old, being SIX FIRST PREMIUMS IN ALL.

PEDIGREE.

MANSFIELD GOLDDUST was sired by L. L. Dorsey's Golddust, he by Vermont Morgan, he by Gifford Morgan, he by Woodbury Morgan and he by the original, or Justin Morgan, he by True Briton, he by Mortan's Traveler, (imported), he by the celebrated English Eclipse, he by King Herod, he by Blank, he by Old Cade. King Herod was by Tartar, his dam Cypron, by Blaze, by Flying Childers. Vermont Morgan's dam was the Chase Mare, sister to Hill's Black Hawk, by Sherman Morgan. Barnard's Morgan's dam was Old Bonaparte, he by Bulrush, he by Justin Morgan. Golddust's dam was by the imported Arabian horse Zilcadie.

MANSFIELD GOLDDUST'S dam was by the thorough-bred horse, Red Tiger, he by Sir Clinton, he by Sir Charles, he by Sir Archie. Red Tiger's dam was a thorough bred mare by Old Grey Eagle.

Of the colts of Golddust's get, Rolla has trotted under saddle in 2:22; in harness 2:21, Rossa in harness, at 5 years old, in 2:35. Zilcadie won second money in 5 year old stakes at Buffalo, in 1872, in 2:27, and Fluty won the 4 year old stakes at the same time and place in 2:32. Lucille Golddust has a record of 2:26, whilst Robby Golddust won the 5 year old stakes at Chicago, in 1871, over all others, and the 4 year old Zilcadie distanced the field at the same time and place, and winning at Kalamazoo, Michigan, the same fall. These are a few of the many fast colts sired by Dorsey's Golddust.

MANSFIELD GOLDDUST will commend himself to all who desire first-class Road Stock. He is well worth the attention of Farmers and others interested in Good Stock.

☞ Mares will be kept and well-cared for on Reasonable Terms, but all accidents and escapes are at the risk of the owner.

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All grades and thickness of Walnut, New ells Bannisters, Flooring, Pannels, Wainescoting Coffin Setts, one inch to twelve inch plank; Ash and Oak Flooring and Door Sills, and Red Oak Finishing Lumber.

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LEGAL NOTICE.

ABRAHAM SHOEMAKER and the heirs, devisees and legal representatives of Abraham Shoemaker, whose names and places of residence are unknown, will take notice that on the 27th day of March, 1874, John W. Fuller filed his petition in the court of Common Pleas of Lucas county, Ohio, against them, alleging that he is owner and in possession of the east one half of the northwest quarter of section 35, town 9, range 5, Spencer Township, Lucas county, Ohio, and praying that his title thereto against defendants, and that said defendants be barred from any interest therein. Defendants are required to answer said petition on or before the 25th day of May, 1874.

JOHN W. FULLER.
By Bissell & Gorrill, his Attorneys.

LAND PLASTER

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BAGS OR BARRELS,

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C. H. Sawyer & Co.'s,

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A RARE CHANCE FOR A BUSINESS MAN!

A GOOD Business Man, with a capital of from $5,000 to $7,000, can find a well established and good paying business in a beautiful county seat town in Ohio, of about 2,500 inhabitants and but one hours' ride from this city. Business—Jewelry, Books and Stationery. It is decidedly a rare opportunity to step into an established business. Address OPPORTUNITY, Blade Office.

ASSIGNEE'S SALE OF MARBLE QUARRY.

I SHALL offer for sale at public auction, on the 13th day of May next, at 10 o'clock A. M., at the steps of the Post Office in this city, the property known as the Vermont Marble Quarry, situated near Middlebury, Addison county, Vermont. It consists of five acres of land with one Quarry opened. The Marble is excellent in quantity and may be said to be almost inexhaustible. Also, a lot of Marble and Tile, a Derrick, Blacksmith and Mining Tools.

Terms of Sale.—One third cash in hand, the balance in six and twelve months, with interest. For particulars enquire of

J. L. SMITH, Assignee.

Toledo, April 28th, 1874.

PLANK ROAD IMPROVEMENT NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that a petition has been filed with the County Auditor, asking for the improvement of the road commencing at Air Line Junction Bridge, thence westerly along Wayne street, so called, to the Monroe turnpike; then commencing again on the section line road, near the northeast corner of Section nine (9), Town three (3) U. S. R., in Adams Twp., and thence west on said section line road to the N. W. corner of Section eight (8), Town three (3), U. S. R., by constructing a plank road eight feet in width of three inch white or burr oak plank, laid on suitable stringers and properly spiked or fastened. Also, that such grading, culverting and draining may be done as shall make a good and substantial road.

Samuel Blanchard, H. A. Boyd and Edward Upton, viewers and J. L. Stratton, surveyor, will meet at Air Line Junction on Monday, May 18th, 1874, at 10 o'clock A. M., and proceed to make a view and survey of the route of the proposed improvement, and report to the Commissioners on or before the 1st day of June, 1874.

By order of the Commissioners of Lucas County, O.

E. W. LENDERSON, County Auditor.
Auditor's Office, Lucas county, Ohio, }
Toledo, O., April 20th, 1874. }

ESTABLISHED 1849.

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Are now paying the highest market prices, in cash, for

Hides, Pelts, Wool Tallow, Furs, &c.

☞ Consignments solicited. Prompt returns made. Sisal Hide Rope and Plastering Hair for sale.

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$5 to $20 per day at home. Terms free. Address GEO. STINSON & Co., Portland, Me.

WANTED.—The Union Central Life Ins. Co. desire to engage first-class men in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois as Special Agents on liberal contracts. Address,
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Farm, Garden and House.

The Family Garden.

BY A PRACTICAL HAND.

The garden is a domestic institution in our country, receiving more and more attention every year. It is not yet sufficiently appreciated by the majority of our people. Too many farmers consider their gardens of slight importance, and many persons who own small plots in the town or city think they can buy their vegetables cheaper than they can raise them. We think they are wrong, at least the great majority of them. The garden can and ought to be made a source of profit, health and enjoyment. Our modern improvements in gardening and fruit culture have made it possible for the humblest laborer to obtain at a small cost many "a dish fit to set before a king." This is as it ought to be, for we are all sovereigns in America. Nature is bounteous, but she resents a slight; treat her indifferently and she will repay with equal indifference, but treat her kindly, and you will rejoice as you behold the return which she will make you as the reward of your labor.

LOCATION AND SOIL.

It seems rather late in the season to give advice upon the selection of a spot for a garden, the nature of the soil, where underdraining and trenching are necessary, but these things lie at the foundation of success. A garden to be nicely located should be near the house, slope a little to the south, and be protected from the cold north and west winds either by a hill, a hedge of sheltering trees, or a close high board fence. The soil should be deep, free from stone, have enough sand in it to keep it from packing down hard or baking after heavy rains, and enough vegetable mould to give it a dark color. The sub-soil should be semi-porous. If it is so compact that it holds the water until it evaporates, it should be underdrained. No lands pays better for draining than the garden; the crops are often doubled by it. Land well drained is almost independent of rain and drought. It makes the atmosphere around more healthy. It admits air into the soil, warms it, improves its texture, and brings everything forward earlier.

PREPARATION OF SOIL.

A thorough preparation of the surface soil is very important in order to obtain the best results; it not only helps the better growth of the plant, but saves much after-culture. Subsoils inclined to be tight are, after being underdrained, very much improved by subsoiling, that is, loosening the under soil—trenching, as it is called when done with the spade. In small gardens, or where there are trees, shrubs or plants liable to be injured, the plow should not be used. The digging-fork is the best implement. With farmers, however, and those who have large gardens and keep horses, the expense of growing many vegetables can be very much lessened by planting certain crops by themselves, and making the plow do the work which otherwise would have to be done by hand.

PLOTTING.

Where rows can be made one or two hundred feet in length, we would devote a portion exclusively to potatoes, peas, beans, tomatoes, egg-plant, peppers, sweet corn, squashes, melons, cucumbers, cabbage, cauliflower and such other annual growing vegetables as are planted in hills or rows sufficiently wide apart to admit the plow. It is better not to put the same crop on the same spot year after year. In order to make the land as remunerative as possible, and make everything work to an advantage, plant the early maturing crops, such as early potatoes, cabbage, peas, onions, &c., by themselves, so that when taken off in June or July, they will leave a cleared spot to plant cabbage, turnips and pickles. The ground to be thus treated should be rich and mellow. The berry patch should be by itself. The permanent beds of asparagus, rhubarb, strawberries, and the annual sowed beds of onions, beets, &c., we would have adjoining the main path; sowing the seed of the latter in long, straight rows from the path back, say thirty feet, which is a good depth for a bed. This looks better than the old-fashioned way of small beds with paths between. A garden is sometimes helped in appearance by planting the tall-growing stuff in the background.

FERTILIZERS.

Manure is the next essential; don't forget it. It is the food of plants. They are intelligent things (if we may use the word), and it is useless to attempt to cheat them. No matter how rich a garden may be thought to be, most things will be benefited by more manure. While well rotted barn or stable manure is the best, a change of fertilizers is often beneficial. Sweepings of paved streets are excellent; lime and ashes are good—lime in limited quantities and occasionally. If other land can be used for garden purposes, a rest every six or eight years for a cow or two, cropping it with clover, is excellent. Clover and its roots are very recuperating to an overworked soil. Do not burn up grass, or throw weeds or sods in the road, but dig them under, or put them in a heap in one corner of the garden to rot for future use.

SEEDS.

If you have not already on hand all you need, buy at your earliest convenience all that you need. Vegetables are divided into hardy and tender. The hardy ones can be sown as early in the spring as the ground can be worked. The tender ones want to be left until all danger of frost is past. Until corn planting time. A few of the most common that are hardy are onions beets carrots, parsnips radishes, turnips, lettuce, celery and asparagus. These should be sown in beds, in drills, ten or twelve inches apart each way. Potatoes three feet apart in rows. Peas four feet apart in rows. Asparagus roots in beds one foot apart each. The beds of the latter for family use should be five or six feet in width, with little alleys between, to permit of weeding and cutting without tramping. The tender vegetables are beans, melons, cucumbers, squash, tomatoes and sweet corn.

BERRIES.

Farmers who have the land ought to make the raising of small fruit a prominent feature in their gardens. Not a few neglected currant and raspberry bushes along the garden fence, and a run-out strawberry bed; but half an acre or more of the several sorts, carefully planted and well cared for. There is health, comfort and economy in the fruit garden; so devise liberally. Blackberry and raspberry bushes, if not already trimmed, should be headed back immediately. Secure to stakes or wires running lengthwise with the rows. Fork in some manner around the roots, and mulch with some kind of litter. Roots may yet be planted, four by six apart. Kittatinny and Wilson blackberry, Mammoth Cluster blackcap, Philadelphia and Herstein raspberries are the best. The best reason to set out strawberry plants is now. Make the beds five feet wide, with small alleys between; set the plants eighteen inches apart each way. Boyden's No. 30, Kentucky and Wilson's are among the good sorts. Currants, gooseberries and grapes should not be left out, but have their proper attention and place.

APPLES, PEARS AND CHERRIES.

Our space will not allow us more than to mention the names of a few generally approved varieties of apples, pears, &c. We would recommend as the six best varieties of apples in the order of ripening, Red Astrachan, Primate, Gravenstein, Porter, Rhode Island Greening and Baldwin. Five best pears, Beurre Giffard, Brandywine, Bartlett, Abbet, Beurre d'Anjou, Cherries, Downer's Late Red and Black Eagle.

GENERAL.

The gardner should do his work in a neat and systematic manner; have his rows and paths straight, and his curves true and regular. Then he will delight to view his garden himself, and to have others visit it. He should be vigilant to see that the weeds do not get the start of him; cultivate freely, and take good care of his tools. Having done this and the foregoing, he can then trust in Providence, and expect a good crop without presumption.—*Examiner and Chronicle.*

Transplanting Strawberries.

We have more or less inquiries every season about transplanting strawberries in summer or autumn, the best time, etc. We would say that the best time of all to make new plantations is in the month of April, or in late seasons in the early part of May. But there are circumstances that will justify transplanting the latter part of the season. If the owner of a garden has no bed of strawberries to bear next summer, we would advise setting one just as soon as good plants can be obtained, and the ground is moist.

There is great difficulty in procuring plants for setting in August or September. Every grower of plants for market knows that to dig up before the season of growth is over will probably destroy many, unless a great deal of care is exercised. Every runner that issues from the original plant, will start leaves and strike root every few inches in its growth, and continue to do so, if not broken, until growth is arrested by cold weather. After new plants have formed along the runner, it soon ceases to depend upon the original plant, but draws its sustenance from the latest ones formed; hence, if we dig up the first roots, leaving two or three of those most recently rooted, the runners will continue to grow and strike roots, and none be destroyed by the digging. But this requires a great deal of care, and greatly augments the cost of digging, so that nursery men must have much higher prices for their plants, to compensate them for their extra labor.

New plantations made in April, if well cared for, ought to be able to furnish good strong plants this month, and we would advise any reader who wishes to plant a bed for family use to prepare it well, immediately engage the plants, and when the first rain comes set them with care. If everything should prove favorable the plants would become well rooted before winter, and perhaps bear half a crop next summer. If not transplanted before the 20th of September the plants will not be likely to become so deeply rooted as to be able to resist the heavings of the winter or spring frosts, should they be unfavorable, and the next summer's crop of berries would probably be light.—*American Rural Home.*

Plant Fruit Trees.

As the spring advances the farmer who loves fruit—and did you never think what a powerful incentive the love and profits of good fruit is to plant trees—will naturally be thinking about setting some apple and pear trees, especially if on a farm, the soil of which is naturally adapted to an orchard. We do not mean that the "don't care farmer" will put out any money for apple trees, or stir himself to plant them; but the progressive farmer, who looks beyond the present, and realizes his own future wants and good of his children—will not let this spring pass without setting a goodly number of young fruit trees. If on an old farm, the orchard of which is run out, he will surely want to replace it with young and vigorous trees—and if on a new farm, one which has upon it no apple trees, one of his first cares will certainly be to have a young orchard started, that he may rejoice in its growth; for if a healthy farmer has settled down upon a farm where he is to make himself and his children a home, that farm cannot be considered at all complete unless it has upon it an orchard of good, hardy trees, well planted and well taken care of. And if we are speaking to a single reader who is in this situation, or addressing a young farmer who this spring goes upon his own farm for the first time, let us counsel a generous planting of desirable sorts of apple trees. The man who does work of this kind does it for a life time—and simply as a matter of investment, the expense it costs will return good dividends after a few years. The future of fruit growing in Maine is so full of promise, that a good fortune is within easy reach of whoever plants an orchard of two hundred trees and takes care of it. Plant apple trees this spring, brother farmers; a hundred if you can, and can do it well and give them the care they need; if not plant ten, and extend to them the same attentions without which you can hardly hope for success. And in this work, the motto which commemmorates the planting, two centuries and a half ago, of the oaks and beeches at Althorp, Brighton, England—so famous in history—may with equal propriety be said of you: "Up and be doing, and God will prosper."—*Maine Farmer.*

Value of Brood Mares.

[National Live Stock Journal.]

A paragraph in a late number of this journal, mentioned the fact that E. Dillon & Co., of Normal, Ills., had sold four colts, the produce of one brood mare, for $5,500; and we now allude to it for the purpose of stating that this is not, by any means, an exceptional case. On the contrary, it has been demonstrated over and over again, that it is scarcely possible for the general farmer to keep any kind of stock on his farm that will prove so uniformly profitable as a good brood mare. Instances are numerous where a single brood mare, well and fashionably breed, and coupled for a series of years with popular sires, has, by her produce, made a handsome fortune for her owner; and in almost every neighborhood can be found mares of more than average value. The prudent, wide-awake farmer will be on the look out for such mares; and whenever he can purchase them at reasonable prices, he will not fail to do so. Such an investment can not fail to do better than money at compound interest, if the mares be coupled with the right sort of stallions. Good horses always find a ready sale at high prices—the scrubs only are a drug in the market—and a colt can be raised as cheaply as a steer. To make horse breeding profitable, you must *start* right. Horses are not sold at so much per pound in the market, like cattle or hogs, it is the *quality* that determines the price, and quality is a thing of inheritance, derived from the sire or dam, or from both. If the foal, when dropped, has not inherited those characteristics which give value to a horse, no amount of after care and attention can compensate for the lack of organic quality. It costs no more time or money to raise a good colt than a poor one, excepting, perhaps, in the original investment—the difference in cost of a good brood mare and a poor one, the service of a first class stallion and a scrub—and herein lies the secret of success.

Seeding Down on the Sod.

Some farmers practice seeding down on the sod, that is, ploughing up an old exhausted field and harrowing lightly and sowing grass seed immediately. It is not so effective as summer fallowing and seeding in the fall, but it will succeed generally. Mr. Lewis of Herkimer county, N. Y., stated before the State Board of Agricultural, as appears by the Secretary's report:

"I have repeatedly turned over sod and have made a fine, nice sod, by seeding at once, with the old sod undisturbed. But if I had land that was foul, either with this witch-grass, Canadian thistles, bushes, brakes, or anything that was obnoxious, I should prefer, by all means this summer fallowing. It fits the land the most perfectly for the reception of seed, of any treatment that I ever saw bestowed upon it, and the crop is almost sure to grow. By summer-fallowing you prepare an immense amount of food for the grasses and in its most available form for the grass roots to reach it. There is no loss of time. When you count a number of years forward, I think there is a gain of at least a year in thorough summer fallowing. But you can turn land over and seed it almost any time of the year. I have sowed every month in the year, except December, January and February. I sowed grass for several years with crops, supposing that I had got to sow a crop if I sowed grass-seed; but for twenty years I have not put anything with my grass-seed when I resowed it. I give the grass-seed full sweep, and I find that I can seed as late as the 28th of May, and get a very good crop of grass by the 28th of September, turning the sod right over. But, as I said before, I am sorry that this friend of mine regards it as the loss of a whole year. I repeat, I have never seen any treatment of land equal to that of thorough summer-fallowing, for a permanent meadow or permanent ploughing. Nothing that I have ever seen will prepare the land so well."

Smut in Grain.

Corn smut is caused by a parasitic fungus long known to botanists by the name of *Ustilago Maidis*, and it has frequently been described and figured in botanical works. Its developement or growth is also pretty well understood. The fungus grows from very minute spores, which are produced by millions, but exactly as to how these spores react and infect the growing corn, I can find nowhere any definite information, nor have I seen any data relative to preventives. We are left here to surmise and analogies. Smut in wheat is produced by a similar fungus, similar in its botanical characters, in its results, and this wheat-smut fungus is much better known. It is proved that this gains access to the plant through the seed. The spores are sticky and adhere to the sound grain at harvest or thrashing, and are sown with seed wheat. As the new wheat plant grows, the fungus develops in due time with it, ripening its spores at harvest. The spores may be killed and the crop saved by soaking the seed wheat in strong brine, or in a weak solution of sulphate of copper, commonly known as blue vitriol or blue stone. (The proportions used are two to five ounces of the crystals per bushel of wheat.) It would be well to try the same remedies with corn. I have seen this recommended, but I have no information whatever as to the results. Corn smut is rarely abundant enough to seriously affect the crop, and is principally dreaded because it is poisonous to cattle.—*Prof. Brewer.*

Which Breed of Poultry Eats Most?

On September 1st, an Ohio poultry keeper took ten pullets of each of the breeds mentioned below, about six months old, gave them a yard forty feet square, with a comfortable house, and kept exact account of eggs and feed, as follows:

The Dark Brahmas ate 369 qts. of corn, oats and wheat screening, laid 605 eggs, and weighed 70 lbs. The Buff Cochins ate 406 qts., laid 591 eggs, and weighed 73 lbs. The Gray Dorkings ate 309½ qts., laid 524 eggs, and weighed 59½ lbs. The Houdans ate 214½ qts., laid 763 eggs, and weighed 45½ lbs. The Leghorns ate 321 1 5 qts, laid 807 eggs, and weighed 36½ lbs.

To make this experiment more complete, and to show which lot gave the most profit, including both eggs and flesh, we have supposed the fowls to be dressed and sold at the end of six months at 20 cents per lb.; also that the eggs are worth 24 cents per doz. (two cents each.) and that the cost of the feed was 2½ cents per quart, or 50 cents per bushel. The figures would then be:

	Cost of feed.	Value eggs.	Total meat.	Value.	Total profit.
Brahmas	$ 9 22	$12 10	$14 00	$26 10	$16 88
Cochins	10 15	11 82	14 18	24 42	16 09
Dorkings	7 72	10 48	11 90	22 38	14 38
Houdans	7 85	15 63	9 10	24 76	19 81
Leghorns	5 77	16 14	7 30	23 44	17 67

The greatest profit on the investment is thus in favor of the Houdans, with the Leghorn next, and the Dorking least.

Mice-Gnawed Trees.

A *Ploughman* correspondent of North Woodstock, Ct., says the mice have gnawed the bark from his pear trees six inches from the ground and wants to know a remedy.

We have generally found it about as well in the end to let the trees go, or replace them with others. The damage can be repaired generally with success by taking a small chisel, half inch, and making openings above and below the girdled mark and fitting in short pieces of round wood sharpened at both ends to fit into the chisel holes or cuts. In making the lower cuts hold the chisel nearly upright only slightly inclined outwards from the tree and for the upper cuts put the point upwards in a corresponding direction. Bend the sharpened shoots outward in the middle till the points will enter the chisel cuts, into which they are to be firmly crowded in with the hand till the pieces are brought nearly straight. Four or five pieces will generally be enough, if there are many trees, but with only a few, a larger number will be more sure of effecting the purpose, and they may be so numerous as almost to touch each other, when they will cure the difficulty in a year or two. The ends may be covered with grafting wax, or a heap of earth thrown up around the trunk. It is not necessary to do it very early in spring, and now is as good a time as any to do it.—*Massachusetts Ploughman.*

Testing Seeds.

Now that spring and the planting season are approaching, it is often important to test the vitality of seeds before sowing them. We have heard the following simple and easy method described: Fill a box, pan or flower pot partly with rich, mellow earth, make the upper surface perfectly smooth, and on this surface draw straight lines, and drop a seed at each intersection, so that they may be easily counted. Then take a wide hoop or frame, and make a bottom to it with cloth stretched across, so as resemble a seive. Place this upon the seed, and fill it with enough fine mould to form a sufficient covering for the seed, which should generally be four or five times the diameter of the seed for the depth. Keep the soil sufficiently moist and in a warm place. The seive can be easily lifted and the seeds examined without disturbing them. In this way corn, wheat, clover seed, turnip seed and many other kinds can be easily tested, which may be of considerable importance where the age or freshness of the seed is not certainly known.—*Country Gentleman.*

Consoling.

[From the Milwaukee Sentinel.]

After all the matter is not so depressing. The farmer, for instance, when he is compelled to sell that forty-acre field to pay his increased taxes, will be comforted by the fact that some bondholder in London has really, you know, quite a good opinion of America, and that it is done "to provide for a surplus to be retained in the Treasury in gold."

Miscellaneous.

THE HEATHEN CHINEE.

How Celestial Culprits are Punished.

[From the Boston Times.]

The Mandarin of Pekin, who corresponds in point of power with an American Trial Justice, only clothed with a little more summary jurisdiction, administers justice morning and evening in his own house. Attended by his Secretary and inferior officers, some of whom bear iron shackles, and others pan-tsees, he sits at the table, while the hapless accused wallows on his unworthy stomach upon the carpet at his feet. A number of small sticks lie on the table before him. Being convicted of any petty offense, the culprit is immediately chastised and released. The Mandarin signifies the extent of the chastisement by throwing one little stick after another upon the floor, each one that falls being the signal for five strokes of the bastinado.

In superior cases there is a multiplicity of tribunals, and a delay of judgment which the most fastidious criminal in New York might well be content with, the Emperor himself being at last invoked to decide the thing.

When a Celestial sinner is arrested a chain is put around his neck, and fastened with a padlock, and on the smallest resistance, an inferior officer, who precedes him, drags his head well nigh off his body, whilst another, who brings up the rear, jabs him scientifically in the back. When he is brought out for trial, a man goes before him beating a gong to attract the notice of the public; a small red flag is stuck into each of his ears with the same object, and two officers run behind him to keep his head up by rapidly delivered blows with a cleft cane.

APPLYING THE BASTINADO.

which is the favorite award of insignificant misdemeanors, is effected by straightening out the culprit on the floor and laying on the pan tsee with energetic precision to the posterior. The pan-tsee is a thick piece of split bamboo cane the lower end of which is about four inches in width and the upper end small and smooth to render it more convenient A Mandarin always has one attendant in his train, who always accompanies him wherever he travels, bearing a pan-tsee, which, at the nod of his master, he administers to any chance offender, and the best of the joke is that the delinquent is no sooner released from the bastinado than he returns his humble thanks to the Mandarin for the good care he takes of his education. Another punishment in favor for petty offenses is by twisting the cartilages of the ear in a peculiar and most painful fashion. The Chinese merchant, or tradesman, who is guilty of fraud or unwarrantable knavery in business, is punished by a swing of a novel and excruisiting pattern. Two upright posts are driven firmly into the ground, and a cross bar fixed thereto, from which he is suspended by the shoulders and ankles, a situation so painful to bear that two officers are kept in attendance to periodically relieve his sufferings by supporting him with a bamboo passed under his breast. A Chinese boatman being convicted of a minor crime, is compelled to kneel, and whilst one officer of justice prevents him from flinching, another grasps his pig-tail and bestows a number of blows upon each side of his face with a sort of double battledore, made of thick leather. An interpreter who falsifies his interpretations, is made to kneel, and a large piece of bamboo cane is placed behind his knees and trampled upon by two officers of justice standing on each end, and producing more or less pain as they approach to or recede from him. That grand embodiment of torture called

THE RACK,

is also a Chinese institution. This supremely diabolical invention is used chiefly for the purpose of extorting confessions, a circumstance which shows that the Chinese are just three centuries behind Christianity, and no more. The instrument they use is composed of a thick, strong plank, having a contrivance at one end to secure the hands, and at the other end a double wooden vise. The vise is formed of three stout uprights, two of which are movable. The ankles of the culprit being placed in the machine, a cord is passed round the upright and held fast by two men. The chief tormentor then gradually introduces a wedge into the spaces, thus gradually tightening them until the pressure on the ankles reduces the bones to a jelly. Women convicted of indecent demeanor are made to hold up their hands, while small pieces of wood are put between the fingers, and cords are passed round and drawn tightly together, until the virtue of modesty is thoroughly appreciated.—Another refinement of Chinese cruelty is that of placing a small quantity of unslacked lime inside a piece of cotton cloth, and using it by way of a poultice to the eyes.

THE WOODEN COLLAR

is another severe penalty. It is formed of heavy pieces of wood, closed together and having a hole in the centre, which fits the neck of the offender, who, when it is fastened to him, can neither see his own feet nor put his hands to his mouth. Its weight is from fifty to sixty pounds. Some of them weigh two hundred pounds, a load beneath which many an unfortunate has expired. Three months is usually the period for which it is worn, an officer of justice being detailed to see that it is not put off during that space of time. One would almost imagine that the Southern planter had derived some of his inspirations from Celestial sources. The wooden collar is usually the reward of gambling or breaches of the peace, though it is sometimes the punishment of insolvent debtors. Malefactors of a gross type are exhibited publicly, fastened to blocks of wood by chains, or caged like wild beasts. A prisoner who endeavors to escape is subjected to hamstringing, and when the tendons have been severed, chunam, a species of mortar, is applied to the wound. Banishment from his native province is the penalty awarded to a Chinaman who strikes his elder brother or incurs debts for gambling. If the sentence is one of perpetual banishment he goes to Tartary. As he journeys, he carries a mat and a palm leaf, which are all the necessaries of a Chinaman's housekeeping, at any rate while in exile.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

is awarded for robbery with violence, for wearing certain specified ornaments, as well as for all acts of homicide, whether intentional or accidental, frauds on the Government; the seduction of women, whether married or single; the use of abusive language to parents; plundering the dead, or high treason. The method employed is either by strangulation or decapitation. The first is the most general mode, the latter being reserved for the most aggravated offences. A Mandarin who is deemed worthy of death is not usually treated as a malefactor of low degree. The Emperor, if he has a great respect for him, will send him

A SILVER CORD,

a broad hint to play the unpleasant role of Calcraft to himself, which is always accepted and acted upon. It is a fact worth mentioning, that in olden times an English nobleman was generally executed by the same silvern cravat. Decapitation is performed in China in this wise: The condemned is made to kneel, with his hands pinioned together, and his head is cleft by an officer standing behind him, with a two-handed sword. Ordinary strangulation is effected by extending the condemned on a cross, and binding cords tightly around the body, from the feet upwards, until the neck is reached, when a cord is passed around it, and drawn tighter and tighter, until death ensues. It may be mentioned that the Emperor always consults his first law-officers before singing the execution warrant. Furthermore, he deems that part of his reign the most fortunate in which the least number of executions take place

LITERARY GOSSIP.

George Eliot has a volume of poetry in press.

Miss Braddon has written a new drama, entitled "The Missing Witness."

W. D. Howells will commence a new story in the Atlantic for July.

The German novelist, Spielhagen will write letters from Berlin to the London Athenæum.

"The Four Leaved Clover" is the new story by "Saxe Holm," to appear in the June Scribner's.

Mr. Frederick Seward is writing a biography of his father, William H. Seward.

Olive Logan is so delighted with France that she declares she never wants to see America again.

The late Dr. Strauss has left unfinished biographies of Beethoven and of the poet Lessing.

A new edition of Adam Smith's "Wealth of Nations" which has been out of print for two years, is in press at Putnam's.

Mr. M. W. Everts has written a "History of Dutch Literature," in which he takes a somewhat new and novel view of Dutch authorship.

Osgood & Co. are about to publish an American edition of Boedekers guide books in nine volumes.

Mrs. Phoebe Cummings Bailey, of Dover, N. H., was the great great-grand-daughter of Longfellow's John Alden and Priscilla.

A new constitutional History of England, by Prof. H. Stubbs, of Oxford, has got as far as the first volume.

The Early English Text Society has published the history of the Holy Grail, edited from manuscripts by F. J. Furnivall.

The first parts have appeared of a Dutch translation of Mills' "Principles of Political Economy."

Lotos Leaves, by members of the well-known Lotos Club, of New York, will appear early in the fall by artists who are members of the club.

Henry Wikoff has a new book in Lippincott's press, entitled "The Four Civilizations of the World."

The French "Notes and Queries," which came to an end in 1870, is to be revived under the title of the "Myriobiblon."

The New Life of Benjamin Franklin, by Hon. John Bigelow, will extend to three volumes.

"Men of the Mayflower," and other lectures, is Punshon's new volume, to be issued by Estes & Lauriat.

A new biography of Poe, which is being prepared by John H. Ingram, is to contain letters hitherto unprinted, rebutting the attacks of his former biographer, Dr. Rufus W. Griswold.

Among late English publications is The Norman People and Their Existing Descendants in the British Dominions and the United States of America.

It is rumored that ex-President Jefferson Davis, who is at present in Europe, has a war book written, and that it will be published in England.

The Memoirs of the late Paul de Kock have appeared in Paris. It is an amusing book and full of anecdote, but, unfortunately, the author had completed only the first volume at his decease.

The "Society of Gentlemen," of London, has privately printed a volume of the sayings and conversation of President Lincoln, which has been so eagerly taken up that copies sold at fifteen guineas each a week after its publication.

The last edition of the London slang dictionary under the head of "Bummer," says: "In California men who profess to be journalists, and so obtain free dinners and drinks, are called literary bummers."

The Spectator says of the French novelist Balzac that his philosophy is such as Solomon might have penned after seeing the French Revolution, ruining himself on the Stock Exchange, living in Parisian *cafés* for many years, and on the morrow of a night's debauch writing under the stimulus of a tremendous headache.

Senor Jose de Armas Cespedes, a nephew of ex-President Cespedes, and a writer well known in Cuban and Spanish literary circles, is at present engaged in writing an historical novel, based upon the struggle of the South American colonies for independence, and the conspiracies of the Sons of Bolivar, and the Black Eagle in Cuba near the close of the first quarter of this century.

Mr. Sumner has been buried only a few days, and already two lives of him are being written—one by C. Edwards Lester and one by George Alfred Townsend. It is also believed in Boston that Mr. Edward L. Pierce, one of Sumner's three literary executors, will edit memoirs of him.

It is announced in a late German paper that the Cotta firm at Stuttgart will shortly bring out a work by Gregorovius, under the title of "The Story of Lucrezia Borgia," which, it is believed, will throw a wholly new light on that tragic episode of Italian life. The work is to consist of two volumes, one of which will contain the text, and the other the materials upon which it is founded.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

A good thing to be made of—Maid of honor.

Two "ladies" are at work "down in a coal mine" in Pennsylvania.

A Portland woman, 32 years old, has been a mother ten times.

Practising with a dumb bell—talking brilliantly to dull but pretty woman.

A Louisville washerwoman drew $18,750 in the lottery. She thinks that will "wash."

"They put him in a show case," was the remark of a rural lady who recently attended a city funeral.

Let all spinsters be happy; they are never without two good beaux at least, provided they use them well—their elbows.

An elegant toilette in Paris costs from 700 to 1,000 francs, although very handsome costumes may be procured at 400 and 500 francs.

One of the features of the New Orleans Mardi Gras procession was a woman whipping her husband with a pole. No burlesque about that.

Seven young ladies in Waupan, Wis., lately jumped for a silver medal. They wore loose trousers, and Sarah Jane Smith conqered.

A young woman married to an old and bald-headed man said she supposed she would be compelled henceforth to waste her sweetness on the desert hair.

"Don't you mean to marry again, my dear sir?" said a buxom widow to her neighbor. "No, my dear widow," said the old rusty; "I'd rather lose all the ribs I've got than take another."

It isn't right, and a Delaware court has decided that it isn't, for a man to tie his wife up to a hitching-post and leave her there all night, because he finds her spectacles in the coffee-pot.

An old lady who had insisted on her minister's praying for rain, had her cabbages cut up by a hail-storm, and on viewing the wreck, remarked that she "never knew him to undertake anything without overdoing the matter.

An alleged lunatic was consigned to an asylum by his wife and friends. A gentleman said to a lady who doubted the victim's insanity: "What do you think, madam, of his lying on his back in the barn-yard, and permitting the hens to feed off his body?" "Why, nothing more," responded the lady, "than that, like many other married men, he was hen pecked."

The old Commonwealth of Virginia proposes to pay off its State debt by gigantic lottery.

The Wheat and the Weeds.

A farmer once sowed a field with good wheat. But one night, when everybody was asleep, an envious neighbor came and sowed patches of weeds all over the field. When the wheat grew up, the farmer's servants noticed the weeds growing up, too, and they came to their master and said, "Shall we root up the weeds?" But the master said, "No, for fear you root up the wheat with the weeds. Wait till the harvest-time; then the wheat and weeds shall be cut down together: and the wheat shall be stored up in the barn, but the weeds shall be burned."

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THE WEEKLY BLADE.

D. R. LOCKE. J. P. JONES.

LOCKE & JONES, Proprietors.

TOLEDO, OHIO, THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1874.

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JOHN MURRAY'S RUIN.

The BLADE will shortly begin to publish a new temperance story from the pen of GEORGE WAINWRIGHT, Esq, entitled "John Murray's Ruin" This story is carefully wrought portrayal of the drunkard's career, and in sustained interest is superior to its predecessor, and is written in Mr. WAINWRIGHT'S best style. Send in the names that you may receive all the story.

LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY—SPECIAL OFFER.

The books of LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY contain the names of a large number of three months subscribers, whose subscriptions are about expiring, or have already expired. We shall be sorry to have a single one of these allow his connection with the MONTHLY to cease, and make this proposition for the benefit of this class of our readers. On receipt of seventy-five cents, we will send nine additional numbers of the NATIONAL MONTHLY to all who were subscribers for three months, thus enabling them to complete the volume under as favorable terms as those who subscribed for the entire year. Parties availing themselves of this offer will please give date of the last magazine received, in order that there may be no lapse.

TRUE THEORY OF A FARMERS' PAPER.

In these days when information is so widely disseminated, and the farmers of the land are so generally awake to the consideration of all questions which pertain to their business and welfare, it is improbable that any one man or set of men can successfully assume to control and direct public opinion. The day has gone by when the utterance of the individual can change or neutralize the opinions which every farmer of average intelligence can and does work out for himself. The result is that more men are thinking for themselves to-day than ever before, and the effects upon the plans and processes of Agriculture and Horticulture cannot fail to prove both marked and profitable.

THE AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL claims as one of the broadest planks of its platform the necessity and importance of a free and candid interchange of thought and opinion upon subjects which are pertinent to the day and the country. Its aim is to be a journal of practical subjects treated by practical men. Its corps of contributors is not surpassed by any agricultural journal in the country, and its articles will bear comparison with those of the more expensive publications. We ask none of the readers of the BLADE to accept the statements here made regarding the FARM JOURNAL, without the evidence afforded by their own judgment. We shall be glad to send a copy of the May number free, to any one who will take the trouble to send us his address.

☞ In view of the fact that contraction must result in the prostration of business, and consequent decrease in revenue receipts, the President advised increased taxation in order to raise money for carrying on the Government. We go in for that, too. Let us have an income tax—a liberal tax on all incomes exceeding $2,000 per year, and let it increase in amount with the increase of the income over that amount. That will reach the men who want contraction, and they should pay for it.

☞ A FEW THOUSAND MORE books are ready for distribution under our great book offer. It is the cheapest plan ever originated for starting a library.

☞ THE WEEKLY BLADE contains more news and general reading than any Western paper published. Specimen copies free.

THE WEEK.

It is now stated that a compromise in the currency contest at Washington will result in the adoption of a free banking measure, and the issue of a new series of government twenty year bonds, to be used in retiring greenbacks. A much better feeling prevails in financial matters.—The public debt statement shows a decrease of $2,900,000 in the debt during April.—The testimony for the defense in the HOWARD court martial closed on the 1st inst. It is probable that a decision will be reached to-day, and the proceedings forwarded to the President for his approval.—PHILIP CLAYTON, of Georgia, Assistant United States Treasurer under COBB at the breaking out of the rebellion, has just been confirmed by the Senate to be U. S. Consul at Valparaiso. It will be remembered that Clayton left the U. S. Treasury at the breaking out of the war to occupy a similar position under the Confederate Government.—Both parties in the Arkansas Brooks-Baxter dispute have sent attorneys to Washington to represent their respective cases to the President. It is stated that after a thorough consideration of the case, Attorney General Williams will prepare an opinion for the latter.—As will be seen by our Congressional summary, the Senate failed to pass the Finance bill over the veto of the President, the vote standing 34 to 30, thus falling considerably short of the two-thirds vote required in such cases.—Other matters of Congressional interest will be found in the summary referred to. Boston held memorial services for CHARLES SUMNER in Music Hall on the 29th ult. The attendance packed the hall to its utmost capacity. The oration was pronounced by CARL SCHURZ, who was introduced to the audience by WENDELL PHILLIPS.—New York, last week, was the seat of a conference between SCOTT, (Pennsylvania Central,) VANDERBILT, (New York Central,) and WILSON, (Erie,) looking to a re-arrangement of the passenger and freight rates between the East and the West, which "conference" means increased tariffs to the passenger and shipper.—In Wisconsin another railroad muddle has arisen owing to the refusal of the Chicago & Northwestern and Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroads to comply with the laws regulating railroad traffic passed by the State Legislature last winter. The Governor has issued a proclamation calling upon all good citizens to aid in the enforcement of the laws in question, while the railroad companies announce that they have the opinion of distinguished legal gentlemen of New York and Boston that the law is unconstitutional.—The inundation on the lower Mississippi is subsiding somewhat, and it is thought that the greatest damage has been reached. The Memphis Board of Aldermen have drawn upon themselves very unpleasant comment by refusing to concur in the Common Council's appropriation of $10,000 for the sufferers.

On the 4th inst., the House Ways and Means Committee, through Hon. CHAS. FOSTER of Ohio, made a report on the notorious SANBORN contract, recently, under investigation. The report sets forth that the contracts were needless; that they were secured by fraud and perjury; that the money could have been collected by the officers of the department; and after censuring RICHARDSON, SAWYER and BANFIELD, recommends the repeal of all existing laws and contracts on the subject.

Foreign news of interest will be found on our eighth page, and the usual variety of correspondence in its usual place.

LICENSE OR PROHIBITION.

Our Maumee City correspondent expresses regret because the BLADE favors the license system as the only method by which temperance habits can be successfully and permanently established among the people. The readers of the BLADE are intelligent, thinking people, and while we did not expect all of them would adopt our views, we knew they would not refuse to hear arguments upon both sides and act conscientiously when called upon for their verdict. Our correspondent manifests the right spirit. He is not disposed to be intolerant, and we assure him, and all others, that the columns of the BLADE are ever open to intelligent and proper discussion upon this and all other subjects.

As we have before stated, the question is not as to what we *would* do, but it is—What *can* we do? It is not a question as to whether drunkenness is right or wrong, for upon that subject there is no difference of opinion. We are all agreed up to the point where the questions of regulating, restraining, or prohibiting the traffic put in their appearance. At this point, the road branches and men go in different directions, some claiming that temperance can be soonest reached in one direction, and some in another. It would naturally be supposed, in a case of this character, that actual search, or experience, would settle the question and insure agreement as to the proper course to be pursued. But such is not the case. With many persons, experience in the treatment of the liquor traffic weighs nothing. Superficial thinkers can easily rail against the traffic and enumerate its evil effects, but it requires judgment and enlightened reflection to produce and defend a plan which is calculated to work a reformation. Facts and experience, however unpalatable, must not be ignored. It will not do to assume that mankind can be legislated from a state of sin and degradation into a state of purity and holiness by a single enactment. They do not progress in that way. The whole history of the race shows that human progress has been made by short steps with long intervals between them.

The temperance question is not a new one. The arguments for and against this, that, and the other methods of suppressing the vice of intemperance have been presented so often that they must be familiar to all; and yet, strange as it may seem, the same experiences and the same facts make different impressions upon different minds. Many persons, not having reached that point where they can act independent of prejudices and selfish desires and motives, set aside, or give little weight to experience and well established facts. It is a common thing for certain grades of mind to be governed by desire and not by reason. It is from this class of persons that drunkards are made. The man who is capable of reasoning from cause to effect, and who is governed by reason rather than impulse and desire, will not be a drunkard. The road leading to drunkenness and degradation is not an unknown one. Every observing person knows where it is located—its starting point, its direction, and its terminus. And yet thousands upon thousands of men enter upon that road annually. Why? Because facts and experience weigh nothing with them. They have seen the cup, they have tasted it, and they have been pleased with its effects. The gratification of a selfish desire blinds their eyes to the terrible results attending such gratification.

So it is with many who shun this road to ruin and who would have others shun it. Without stopping to inquire as to what they can do, they declare that they will compel men not to travel on that road. They do not consider their ability, or the means at their disposal. They rush into the work with zeal, but not with discretion. Stern facts and convincing experience weigh nothing against blind zeal, and the weak-minded zealots are always proscriptive. The moment any one calls a halt for reflection, he is denounced as a "whiskeyite," a "rum-sucker," or something of the sort. Ignorance and proscription are twins, and they are never separated. Now, why not reason and reflect as to the best method to be adopted in the treatment of the liquor traffic? Does any sane mind need additional or more conclusive evidence that the traffic cannot be suppressed by a single enactment of the Legislature? Is experience upon that subject worth nothing? Why ignore the fact that prohibitory statutes have been tried and failed in every instance? Can any real good be gained by rushing madly into errors which have been exposed by experience?

Public sentiment is the source from whence our laws are derived, and it is well to consult that sentiment when laws are made; for every one must know that statutes cannot be enforced against public sentiment. This has been fully demontrated in the enactment of laws by different States for the prohibition or regulation of the liquor traffic. We have to-day in Ohio just as good a prohibitory law as any legislature could frame and adopt; but it is not, and cannot be enforced. Still, there are many men in Ohio who are clamoring for a "prohibitiory law." They seem to think that a law upon the statute book will close the saloons, whether there are any persons to enforce that law or not.

With a knowledge of the fact that prohibitory laws have everywhere failed to stop the traffic in intoxicating drinks; and with the additional fact that they have proved, and are proving, a dead-letter upon statute books, operating as a license for any and every person to sell ardent spirits when and where they please, is it not time for sensible men and women to inquire as to what *can* be done, and not continue to waste their energies in efforts to accomplish impossibilities? If prohibitory laws cannot be enforced, and experience demonstrates that such is the fact, what can be done to restrain intemperance and finally eradicate the evil? This is the practical question for temperance men and women to consider. It is our belief that the best results can be reached through a rigid license system. Such a law can be enforced, and it would result in very materially reducing the number of places where intoxicating drinks could be had. It would reduce the saloons to about one-tenth their present number; it would insure responsible persons as proprietors of those saloons; it would rob the traffic of its political power; it would gradually stimulate the growth of temperance sentiments and habits; and the result would be redemption from the evils which now attend the traffic. We do not claim that all these benefits would flow from a license law immediately upon its adoption, but we do believe that it would gradually and certainly carry public sentiment forward to the point where prohibition would be possible.

A NEW ARRANGEMENT.

LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY for June will be issued about the 20th of the present month. Under the new arrangements recently perfected it will appear hereafter simultaneously with the other leading popular magazines, and will be in the future livelier than ever. Send ten cents to LOCKE & JONES for a specimen copy of the new number.

THE ARKANSAS TROUBLES

The contention over the Governorship of Arkansas is assuming a serious aspect again, and already armed bands are in the field, killing and plundering the people. Could this warfare be confined to the active participants in the strife, it would be well, perhaps, to permit the bloody work to continue; but since the innocent must suffer most severely from such a struggle, it would seem proper for some steps to be taken for the protection of peaceable citizens, and the punishment of those who are guilty of offenses against the laws of the State. With a large class of the inhabitants of that State, moral restraint affords no barrier to prevent the commission of all manner of outrages, and they will accept this gubernatorial war as a license for organizing into guerrilla bands for murder and plunder.

☞ The latest objection to cremation comes from life insurance companies, who urge that it would remove all opportunities for the identification of bodies, and therefore result in stimulating fraud. This is a singular excuse to urge against any method for disposing of the dead, since the people, in determining what shall be done with deceased persons, will scarcely consult the interests of undertakers, life insurance companies, or any other class of business men.

☞ SHOW THE BLADE to your friend, if he does not subscribe for it, send us his name that we may send him a copy.

THE CENTENNIAL.

The people of this country feel a deep interest in the movement inaugurated for properly celebrating the One Hundredth Anniversary of American Independence So far as we have been able to observe, there is no person in this nation who does not favor the celebration of that anniversary in some manner. The only points upon which differences of opinion exist, relate to the manner in which, and the place where, such celebration shall take place.

Our readers will remember that a National organization was formed about two years ago, with general consent, that Philadelphia was chosen as the place, and that a grand Exposition, illustrative of the growth of our country in all things which indicate human progress towards a higher and better state of existence, was agreed upon. No unbiased mind could for a moment doubt the propriety of the selection of Philadelphia as the place, since it was there where the Declaration of Independence was adopted, signed, and promulgated.

To carry out this enterprise in a manner calculated to reflect credit upon our Government and people, would necessarily involve a large sum of money. How to raise this has been the perplexing question with the gentlemen selected to make all necessary preparations for the Exposition. At first, it was proposed to appoint persons in convenient localities throughout the country to collect money, in subscriptions of $10 each, and for a time this method was tried, but it proved unsuccessful. The people of Philadelphia and the friends of this movement were not disposed to abandon so laudable a work on account of this failure, and they at once directed their efforts to other methods for procuring the means necessary to accomplish their purpose. The Legislature of Pennsylvania was appealed to and that body voted $1,000,000 for the Centennial. The City Council of Philadelphia voted $1,500,000, and the citizens of that city subscribed $1,500,000, making a total subscription on the part of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania of four millions of dollars. Since that time the citizens of Philadelphia have added $300,000 to their subscription, making the aggregate $4,300,000. It is estimated that from eight to ten millions will be required to make the Exposition what it should be, and now a proposition is pending before Congress for an appropriation of $3,000,000 by the General Government for this work. We are gratified to learn that Congress is disposed to extend this aid, in which event the Centennial Finance Committee express the utmost confidence in their ability to raise the balance of the amount which will be required to insure success.

Every citizen of America must feel a deep interest in this celebration. It appeals to the pride of every one, since it will show to the nations of the world that the highest state of intellectual development and material progress can alone be reached through a Republican form of government, demonstrating that man is not only capable of self-government, but that human freedom and intelligence are essential to the attainment of the highest degree of progress.

Our country possesses all that is required to make a most creditable appearance on the one hundredth anniversary of our National freedom, and it is not solely for the purpose of indicating our progress as a people, that we would urge the speedy adoption of all measures necessary for the perfecting of arrangements to make the Exposition what it is designed to be, but the nations of the Old World, seeing the wonderful progress made by this free government, must be deeply impressed with the importance of giving to their people the largest liberty and the most liberal education, in order to secure the greatest development of individual and national prosperity.

We trust Congress will make the appropriation asked as speedily as possible. There is no time to lose in this work. Preparatory arrangements should now be in progress. Who would see the time arrive for the opening of the Exposition and the arrangements for it not complete, as was the case at Vienna? Let this great work be pushed forward, that our Government and people may celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the greatest Republic the world has ever known, in such a manner as to reflect credit upon our people and their free institutions. Personal and local prejudices must be cast aside, that this nation may make a showing before the world which shall fairly reflect the true position of our Government in point of intelligence, enterprise and skill.

PUBLIC DEBT STATEMENT.

The following is a recapitulation of the condition of the debt statement for the month ending April 30, 1874:

Six per cent. Bonds	$1,214,231,500
Five per cent. Bonds	509,802,250
Total Coin Bonds	$1,724,033,750
Lawful Money Debt	14,678,000
Matured Debt	6,164,270
Legal Tender Notes	382,076,777
Certificates of deposit	51,860,000
Fractional Currency	47,446,023
Coin Certificates	33,710,850
Total without interest	$ 515,081,198
Total Debt	$2,239,114,948
Total interest	27,181,564
Cash in Treasury—	
Coin	90,301,932
Currency	5,898,074
Special deposits held for redemption of certificates of deposits as provided by law	51,860,000
Total in Treasury	$ 147,060,026
Debt less cash in Treasury	2,119,735,277
Decrease during the month	2,065,451
BONDS ISSUED TO PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANIES, INTEREST PAYABLE IN LAWFUL MONEY	
Principal outstanding	$ 64,623,512
Interest accrued and not yet paid	992,470
Interest paid by the United States	22,986,021
Interest repaid by transportation of Mails, etc	5,051,418
Balance of interest paid by the United States	17,395,273

☞ In referring to the veto message and quoting from the last annual message of the President, the New York *World* says: "From these parallel passages it is conclusively shown that between December 1, 1873, and April 22, 1874, there has been a radical revolution in the President's views about the currency, or, in General BUTLER'S elegant words, he 'has gone back on himself.'" And yet the *World* has been most loud and long in its praises of the President for this act of going "back on himself."

FORTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

In the Senate on the 27th ult., the session was spent in eulogies on the late Senator Sumner delivered by Messrs. Boutwell, Thurman, Spencer, Morrill, Pratt, Sherman, Wadleigh and Anthony, after which that body adjourned.

In the House on the 28th, after the introduction and reference of several bills, a resolution was passed directing the Committee on Reform in the Civil Service to consider carefully and forthwith the subject of the officers of the Senate and House, with a view to remove any inequality or injustice existing. A bill was also introduced and passed amending the Shipping Commissioners Act, so as not to apply to sail or steam vessels engaged in the coastwise trade or lake trades touching at foreign ports, or otherwise, or in trade between the United States and British North American possessions, or in any case where seamen are by custom or agreement entitled to participate in the profits or results of a course or voyage. The House was then addressed by E. R. Hoar in a tribute to the memory of Senator Sumner. Speeches were also made by Messrs. Lamar, Orth, Rainey, Dawes, Potter, Kelly, Nesmith, Hoar, Conger and Phillips; and on conclusion of the eulogies the House adjourned.

In the Senate on the 28th ult., at the expiration of the morning hour, a motion was made and carried after prolonged debate, to lay aside the regular order of business (the Louisiana bill) and take up the Finance bill. The question than before the Senate was "shall the Finance Bill pass, notwithstanding the President's objection?" On calling the vote, the result was yeas 34, nays 30, as follows: Yeas—Senators Allison, Bogy, Boreman, Cameron, Carpenter, Clayton, Conover, Dennis, Dorsey, Ferry (Mich.), Goldthwaite, Gordon, Harvey, Hitchcock, Ingalls, Johnston, Lewis, Logan, McCreery, Merrimon, Mitchell, Norwood Oglesby, Patterson, Pease, Pratt, Ramsey, Robertson, Spencer, Sprague, Tipton, West, Windom, Wright—34. Nays—Senators Anthony, Bayard, Boutwell, Buckingham, Chandler, Conkling, Cragin, Davis, Edmunds, Fenton, Ferry (Ct.), Flanagan, Frelinghuysen, Gilbert, Hager, Hamilton (Md.), Hamilton (Tex.), Hamlin, Howe, Jones, Kelley, Morrill (Vt.), Sargent, Scott, Sherman, Stevenson, Stewart, Stockton, Thurman, Wadleigh—31. So the bill, lacking the two-thirds vote requisite, was lost. After a motion to take up the Civil Rights bill, the Senate went into executive session, and soon afterward adjourned.

The House on the 28th, passed a bill appropriating $90,000 for the purchase of rations for persons suffering from the inundation of the lower Mississippi. Mr. Negley asked leave to offer a resolution instructing the Committee on Military Affairs to prepare and report a bill to amend the act of June 8, 1872, relative to soldiers' and sailors' homesteads, so as to allow honorably discharged soldiers and sailors, or their widows and orphan children, to acquire homesteads on the public lands without being required to commmence settlement and improvement. Mr. Dunnell objected. Mr. Coburn, Chairman of the Military Committee, remarked that the question was now before that Committee, and would certainly be reported upon. The House then took up the Legislative appropriation bill as reported from the Committee of the Whole and after refusing to concur in some of the amendments made in Committee, the bill was passed.

In the Senate, on the 29th ult., after the presentation of several minor bills, one was introduced by Senator Wright reducing the salaries of all employes of the Senate 10 per cent after the first of October next. At the expiration of morning hour, Senator Sumner's Civil Rights bill was taken up, and Senator Frelinghuysen spoke at length in its favor. Senator Thurman opposed the penalties for violation of the act as being extreme.

The House on the 29th considered several minor bills and then went into Committee of the Whole on the Indian Appropriation bill. During the sitting of the Committee it was stated that the estimated cost of the Indian wars of the last forty years has been $900,000,000.

In the Senate on the 30th ult., a resolution to print 2,500 copies of Hayden's report brought up a fresh discussion on the franking question, and the resolution was laid aside. The Senate again took up the Civil Rights bill and an address was made by Norwood in its favor. A bill was passed increasing the number of paymasters in the U. S. Army from 44 to 50, with the rank, pay and emoluments of Majors of Cavalry.

The House on the same day took up and passed after a three hours debate, the bill authorizing the United States to take possession of the Louisville and Portland Canal. The bill now goes to the President. Mr. Hazleton, from the Committee on Elections, reported that Cannon the sitting member in the Utah contested election case is entitled to his seat.

In the Senate on the 21st inst., Wm. B. Washburn, the new Senator from Massachusetts, presented his credentials and was duly sworn. The Senate passed the House bill appropriating $90,000 for the relief of sufferers by the Mississippi inundation.

The House on the same day, after the passage of some local bills, went into a Committee of the Whole, Mr. Poland in the Chair, on the Indian Appropriation bill. Speeches on the general Indian question, and of the policy to be pursued towards them, were made by Messrs. Hancock, Richmond, Knapp Beck, Adams and Shanks, after which the Clerk proceeded to read the bill by paragraphs for amendment. The committee then rose, when the House took a recess till evening to continue the subject.

The Difference.

The Princess of Wales was very pretty when she was first married; she is beautiful now, she will be handsome ten years hence, and she can never be otherwise than refined and distinguished in appearance if she lives to no matter what age. The Duchess of Edinburgh, on the other hand, is not only without beauty—she is almost without features. She has (if I may venture to describe her in the plain language of the passport office) a round head, flat face, small eyes and a nose so it significant that one may almost describe it as conspicuous by its absence. —*London Correspondence New York Times.*

Bronchitis.

This is an irritation of inflammation of the bronchial tubes which carry the air we breathe into the lungs. It arises from a cold settled in the throat, from Catarrh extending to these parts, from scrofulous affections, and from severe use of the voice. The irritation from this latter cause commences in the *larynx* and *glottis*, which are the organs of the voice, and, extending downwards, produces hoarseness, coughing, and spitting mucous matter, sometimes mixed with blood. It is chiefly dangerous from its tendency to spread into the lungs, and terminate in consumption. It is in the cure of severe and obstinate cases of this disease that Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery has achieved unparalleled success, and won the loudest praise from all who have used it.

A DEBT OF GRATITUDE.

MRS. MARY TAFT, of Elk Point, Dakota Territory, called at the World's Dispensary, Aug. 19, 1873, to acknowledge a debt of gratitude due Dr. Pierce, having been entirely cured of Catarrh, complicated with Throat Disease, by the use of Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy and Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery.

The Credulity of the small number of persons who still pay their money for the painful Metal Spring Trusses is amazing The New Elastic Truss is worn with the greatest ease night and day, retaining the rupture securely under every possible movement or strain of the body, however sudden, affording immediate relief from all suffering. It should never be taken off during the short time requisite to effect a permanent cure. Sold at a reasonable price, and quite durable. This new Truss is sent by mail everywhere by the Elastic Truss Co., No. 683 Broadway, N. Y. City, who send their important circulars free on request.

The Centennial Exhibition

To the People of the United States:

It is right that the people of the United States should know that the day and year which closed the century of American Independence, July 4, 1876, will be commemorated with ceremonies expressive of the gratitude and pride of a great nation, and in accordance with the Act of Congress, June 1, 1872, which created the Board of Finance, the following report is made over the signature of the President of the Board:—

The original law of Congress, enacted March 3, 1871, provided for "the celebration of the Centennial of American Independence by an International exhibition of the arts, manufactures and natural resources of this and other countries under the auspices of the Government of the United States."

And the Act of June 1, 1872, fixed the capital to complete this great commemoration at $10,000,000, which was by the Commissioners apportioned among the several States and Territories on the basis of population.

Of this sum the State of Pennsylvania alone, aided by a subscription of $100,000 from the State of New Jersey, has raised in the form of subscriptions to the stock and by appropriations from its Legislature and the Councils of Philadelphia, about $4,000,000, or nearly one-half the amount necessary to insure success. This provision having been made, designs for suitable buildings were approved, and other preliminary and incidental arrangements have so far advanced as to justify an immediate commencement of the work of construction.

The Commissioners have appealed to the Congress of the United States, on the basis of these subscriptions, appropriations and preparations, to maintain the spirit of the two laws above referred to, and the correspondence of the State Department with foreign powers has induced the Governments of the Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany, Sweden, Liberia, Ecuador, the Argentine Confederation, Chili, Mexico, Hayti and the Sandwich Islands to express their intention to participate, and they have every reason to believe that this appeal to Congress will be generously responded to.

Subscriptions to the stock have also been made by individuals in the States and Territories of Missouri, Illinois, Nebraska, Montana, Indiana, Nevada, Oregon, California, Louisiana, Florida, Maryland, Ohio, Wisconsin, Michigan, Arizona, New Jersey, Delaware, Rhode Island, Arkansas, Alabama, New York, Virginia, Iowa and Kansas.

Such in brief is the condition of the organization for the international commemoration of the close of the century of American independence.

The city of Philadelphia was selected as the most fitting locality at which to celebrate the birth of American Independence for the reasons:—

1. That from Philadelphia the Magna Charta of human liberty, the immortal Declaration, was uttered. The buildings in which the convention sat remained substantially as they were on that historic day, and

2. Of all the points of Revolutionary interest, Philadelphia is the most central and accessible to the whole country. It is the Republic's celebration of its birthday at the very place of its birth.

The Finance Board earnestly urge their fellow-countrymen to keep in mind the great fact that the event to be commemorated is the grandest and most momentous in history; that the commemoration is to take the form of an exhibition of the stupendous progress made by the American people in the first hundred years of their independence, in everything relating to the natural resources of the country and their development, and especially its progress in those industries, arts and institutions which benefit mankind.

How diversified are the objects which must enter into that exhibition—how vast the buildings and the space required to present them with full effect, are suggestions that need only to be mentioned to bring home to every American the colossal magnitude of the undertaking.

Consider for a moment the industries, products and devices necessary to an adequate expression of the progress of your own State, and the space that will be essential to their full presentation, and you can hardly fail to perceive that your State alone will require an area in the exhibition buildings and grounds equal to that occupied at Vienna by England or France. This is true of not less than ten of the older States. The other twenty-seven States and ten Territories will each of them require space in proportion.

That the stock of the Centennial Board of Finance might be within the reach of every citizen the Congress of the United States fixed every share at $10, which will be represented by a handsome steel engraved certificate, executed by the Treasury Department of the Government, and fittingly designed in commemoration of the event. The Board in soliciting subscriptions to its stock, feel assured that there is a patriotic desire to render the exhibition worthy of the occasion.

Notice is hereby given that checks and drafts can be addressed to the Financial Treasurer, Frederick Fraley, No. 904 Walnut street, Philadelphia, for any number of shares at $10 each, and certificates of stock will be promptly returned. The International Exhibition will commence on the 19th of April, 1876, and close on the 19th of October, 1876.

The undersigned, President of the Board of Finance, speaking for his colleagues, and, he believes, for the great body of the American people, does not doubt the answer of that people to this earnest appeal. They are not unmindful of the patriotic interest in the Centennial of their own independence, nor of the high duty of honoring it as it deserves. Philadelphia, the scene of the immortal Declaration, not only in the old hall where it was written, and whence it was proclaimed, but in the extensive park where the exhibition is to be held, sacred as the resort of Washington and the Revolutionary worthies, has given many times her share to the memorial. It is not her celebration—it is the nation's. History has simply designated that city as the spot where the National sentiment can be historically expressed. Every other city and State is inspired by the same sentiment. Every man and woman North and South is stirred by the same impulse. All the peoples of the earth are earnest spectators and students of our progress. The work, therefore, is at once National and international. It reaches every class and every interest. It will be the most remarkable comparison and interchange of ideas and inventions, of art and science, of the products of the earth, the brain and the hands—the most friendly and complete intercourse between the races of all countries in modern civilization. It is impossible to believe that any portion of the American people will hesitate to unite in what is a sacred memory and a sacred obligation.

JOHN WELSH,
President Centennial Board of Finance.

☞ The Crestline Bank, and the First National Bank, of Medina, have suspended. The former made an assignment several days ago, and the latter suspended on Saturday. There was a rumor that the failure of the Medina Bank was occasioned by a defalcation on the part of the cashier, but no facts are given to sustain the charge.

THE ARTICLE ON MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.

The Committee appointed by the City Council to visit Cincinnati and confer with members of the Constitutional Convention relative to the Article on Municipal Corporations, have returned. It will be remembered that this Article, as originally agreed to, only authorized cities to levy a tax of ten per cent. upon the assed value of property for improvement, while it limited such assessment to fifty per cent. within ten years. It also restricted cities from incurring indebtedness, except to a limited per cent. of the taxable property.

A majority of the members of the Convention are from districts of the country where they have no practical knowledge of the wants and necessities of a rapidly growing city, yet the Committee found the members willing to hear facts and arguments and ready to act, with proper caution.

In cities which are partially finished, the provisions of the Article would probably not prove oppressive, but in a growing city like Toledo, such a provision in the Constitution would prove positively injurious. Our city has had a remarkably rapid growth within the past few years. Lands within the limits of the corporation which were valued simply as farm lands, when last assessed for taxation, at perhaps $100 per acre, are now in city lots, and have been sold for perhaps $2,500 per acre, yet each acre of five lots can only be taxed at $100, and, under the Article as originally presented to the Convention, each lot could only be assessed $2 for improvements. Since the valuation of real estate, the city limits have been extended half a mile on each side, taking in farm lands at their old valuation. Of course, the ten per cent. authorized by the Convention would be totally inadequate to make necessary improvements for the convenience and health of the people.

The Committee called the attention of members of the Convention to these facts and have no doubt the following proviso will be added to section three:

Provided, that this section shall be inoperative until after a new valuation, to be made after the adoption of this Constitution.

This will leave the authority of the city undisturbed until a new valuation can be had, when this property, which has so greatly increased in value, can be placed upon the duplicate at a fair valuation, which will probably enable the authorities to make the most essential improvements with the amount of tax authorized.

It is also proposed to amend the last clause of section four so that it will read as follows, the amendment inserted at the request of the Council Committee being included within the brackets:

This section shall not be construed to prevent any municipal corporations from incurring any indebtedness necessary to complete any work authorized by law, and undertaken before the adoption of this Constitution, nor until the first valuation of real estate for taxation after the adoption of this Constitution, to prevent the borrowing of money in anticipation of the collection of assessments actually levied, nor shall the restrictions of this section apply to necessary expenditures for military purposes in time of war.

While these amendments are not all that could be desired, it is believed they will enable our city to make necessary improvements without that embarrassment which must have resulted from the restrictions originally contained in the Municipal Article. The Council Committee are entitled to credit for the presentation of the facts before members of the Convention in such a light as to convince that body of the justice of their requests.

NATIONAL SÆNGERFEST.

What Societies will Participate—The Programme.

The following is a list of the musical societies which have already promised to take part in the great National Sængerfest which occurs at Cleveland next month: Maennerchor, and Petersburg Maennerchor; Toledo; Gesangverein, Harmonie, Orpheus, Harmonia, Cleveland; Liederkranz, Hamilton, Ohio; Schweitzer Maennerchor, Odd Fellows', Sængerchor, Haragari Maennerchor, Cincinnati; Maennerchor, Columbus, Ohio; Concordia, Madison, Indiana; Sængerbund, Fort Wayne, Indiana; Maennerchor, Indianapolis, Indiana; Germania Maennerchor, Chicago; Beethoven, Maennerchor, Wheeling, West Virginia; Orpheus, St. Louis; Liederkranz, Evansville, Indiana; Liedertafel, Erie, Pennsylvania; Sængerbund, Carondelet, Missouri; Gesangverein, Columbia, Illinois; Harmonie, Dayton, Ohio; Maennerchor, Pekin, Illinois; Liederafel, Akron, Ohio; Concordia, Omaha, Nebraska; Bruderbund, Tiffin, Ohio; Liederkranz, Lexington, Kentucky; Maennerchor, Mattoon, Illinois; Orpheus, Cincinnati, Ohio; Liedertafel, Lawrenceburgh, Indiana; Arion, St. Louis, Missouri; Germania, St. Louis, Missouri; Maennerchor, Wooster, Ohio; Concordia, New Bremen, Ohio; Maennerchor, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; Harmonia, Dayton, Ohio; Brunden Sængerchor, Cincinnati, Ohio; Gesangverein, Lebanon, Illinois; Twin Gesang Section, Cincinnati, Ohio; Liederkranz, Louisville, Ky.; Maennerchor, Minster, Ohio; Liederkranz, Indianapolis, Ind.; Sængerbund, St. Louis, Mo.; Sængerbund, Joliet, Ills.; Sængerbund, Detroit, Mich.; Harrugari Maennerchor, Erie, Pa.; Liederkranz, Sandusky, Ohio; Maennerchor, Bellevue, Ohio.

THE PROGRAMME

of the festival will be as follows:

First day, Monday, June 22d—Reception of guests, and distribution of tickets for quarters.

Second day, Tuesday—Continuance of the reception until noon; at 8 P. M. grand reception concert by Cleveland singing societies; welcoming address, and presentation of the flag, by the officers composing the Central Committee.

Third day, Wednesday—Rehearsal for the first grand concert at 9 o'clock A. M.; concert at 8 P. M.

Fourth day, Thursday—Rehearsal for second grand concert at 9 A. M.; at two P. M., matinee given by the scholars of the public schools of Cleveland, assisted by the solo singers and Carl Bergman's entire orchestra; second concert at eight P. M.

Fifth day, Friday—Business meeting at nine A. M., in Sænger Hall; concert by different singing societies not of Cleveland, assisted by solo singers and orchestra, at 8 P. M.

Sixth day, Saturday—Picnic, for which elaborate preparations will be made; processions and probable excursion on the lake.

I. O. O. F.—On Thursday next a new hall, built by the Odd Fellows of Elyria will be opened at that place. The hall will be dedicated by Mr. W. C. Earl, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of State, and an address will be delivered by Ex-Vice President Colfax. The Grand Encampment will be present to witness the exercises, coming by special train from Cleveland.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.—The following named parties procured marriage licenses during the past week:

Geo. W. Boos and Emma McNutt.
Samuel Farr and Mary Barber.
Wm. Baker and Louisa Clausing.
James D. Patten and Elizabeth Barlshorn.
Samuel Wagner and Mary C. Woods.
Charles Hauptman and Anna B. Hartner.
L. Haupet and Augusta Bauscher.
Henry Latike and Patte Wogatake.
Squire Lee and Cathrine Pickney.
Eugene Hance and Mary Weiland.

THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT.

I. O. O. F. Meeting in Cleveland—Members in Attendance—Annual Reports.

The Grand Encampment of Odd Fellows met this morning at 10 o'clock in Cleveland, representatives from all over the State being in attendance, of which the following is a list:

Grand Patriarch—James A. Armstrong, Cincinnati.

Grand High Priest—M. K. Marshall, Circleville.

Grand Senior Warden—L. S. La Rose, Dayton.

Grand Junior Warden—S. K. Bradshaw, Columbus.

Grand Scribe—Joseph Dowdall, Columbus.

Grand Treasurer—N. F. Lucky, Goshen, Clermont county.

Grand Messenger—Nathan Stewart, Cincinnati.

Grand Sentinal—Geo. E. Sterns, Madisonville.

Grand Representatives—James Turner, Dayton, and Wm. C. Earle, Toledo.

Representatives—Jas. Anderson, Dayton; F. Ashton, Jr., Lima; L. J. Beardsley, Alliance; H. Y. Beebe, Ravenna; Wm. Beideman, Chillicothe; A. S. Carr, Cincinnati; S. Chamberlain, Tiffin; Roland R. Chase, West Milton; George L. Conn, Steubenville; Jacob E. Davis, Dublin; George B. Davis, Ironton; A. J. Devore, Cadiz; G. Droth, Cincinnati; Quintin, Eagle, Cincinnati; Geo. R. Elliott, Columbus; J. W. Faringer, Lancaster; S. Fowler, Madisonville; Charles J. Frank, Cincinnati; Philip Getzman, New Philadelphia; J. B. Goudy, McConnellsville; Wm. Guelker, Cincinnati; E. Guthman, Youngstown; James W. Hall, Springfield; George Harrison, Pickaway; J. H. Hart, Cincinnati; Wm. R. Hart, Mt. Vernon; S. L. Hayden, Cincinnati; William R. Haziett, Zanesville; Rev. C. Heddaeus, Columbus; B. F. Henkle, West Liberty; C. A. Hermann, Hamilton; W. S. Hinkle, Lebanon; Thomas C. Hoover, Bellaire; John Jones, London; Wm. B. Kennedy, Cincinnati, Wm. Klamroth, Findlay, Jacob Koch, Adelphi; Louis Koester, Cincinnati; J. H. C. Larmere, Versailles; W. R. Lilly, Circleville; Wm. J. Littell, Cincinnati; James McGure, Cincinnati; M. R. Marks, Cincinnati; John F. Mellen, Milford; John C. Moon, Wilmington; T. J. Mullen, New Richmond; George Murray, Columbus; Henry McDargh, Urbana; P. J. McGowan, Cincinnati; George B. McNairy, Columbus; Edmund Nichols, Newark; Robert N. Patterson, Bryan; George W. Payne, Painesville; F. S. Pelton, Cleveland; F. Plogstedt, Cincinnati; Eli F. Porch, Mansfield; J. B. Potter, Canal Winchester; L. A. Querner, Cincinnati; A. H. Reuss, Cincinnati; George Runtz, Cincinnati; Orin Slack, Cleveland; D. J. Smith, Cincinnati; Henry Sperrier, New Straitsville; Chas. Sutphin, Middletown; T. Taylor, Cincinnati; Judge Joseph Traber, Hamilton; E. H. Underhill, Fremont; W. H. Wagerly, Pomeroy; A. F. Webb, Columbus; A. F. Wilkins, Marysville; George D. Williams, Elyria; Wm. H. Wyant, Canton; John Zehring, Germantown.

The following figures are taken from the annual report of the Grand Scribe.

The balance of cash and investments in the hands of the R. W. Grand Treasurer March 31, 1873, was $2,842 69. The receipts from all sources during the year ending March 31, 1874, was $4,698 40; and the disbursements during the same time was $5,232 58; leaving a balance on hand at the beginning of this fiscal year of $2,308 50.

MEMBERSHIP.

Number of members as per last years report		10,407
Number initiated during the year	1,147	
" admitted by card	161	
" reinstated	74	
		1,382
		11,789
Number expelled	32	
" dropped	483	
" withdrawn by card	197	
" deceased	116	
		808
Number of members remaining,		10,981
Number of Past Patriarchs, 2,285,		
Net increase of membership, 574.		

FINANCIAL.

Balance of cash on hand as per last report	$ 55,461 79	
Balance of investments, as per last report	111,895 88	
Receipts during the year 1873	69,333 74	
	$206,691 21	
Expenditures during the year 1873	59,641 71	
	$147,049 50	
The semi annual reports show cash on hand	$ 27,329 35	
The semi-annual reports show investments	136,075 54	
	$163,404 89	
Number of Patriarchs relieved		1169
Number of widowed families relieved		58
Amount paid for relief of Patriarchs	$ 24,053 36	
Amount paid for relief of widowed families	968 51	
Amount paid for burying the dead	2,281 67	
	$27,303 54	

CONDEMNED.

Utah and Clark Streets—Their Extension—The Court's Action and the Awards to Property Owners.

The condemnation of property for the extension of Clark and Utah streets, in the 6th Ward, was concluded in the Probate Court, before Judge AUSTIN, on Saturday. The following are the awards made by the jurors, in both cases, to property owners:

UTAH STREET.

Gardner heirs	$4,940 20
B. O'Brien	1,800 00
Scribner & Platt, trustees	7,046 25
T. Horan	597 50
H. Bradley	280 00
Con. Bradley	280 00
John Curry	675 00
John O'Shea	585 00
T. Kirby	1,100 00
L. S. & M. S. R. R.	50 00
J. King	927 00
L. S. & M. S. R. R.	5 00
Total	$18,311 95

CLARK STREET.

Jas. Longworth et al	$3,020 00
Elizabeth W. Perry et al	1,039 00
Gardner heirs	150 00
Scribner & Platt	8,460 00
Carr & Hennessy	162 00
T. Horan	432 50
H. Bradly	217 50
C. Bradly	217 50
John Curry	127 50
J. & W. O'Shea	427 50
T. Kirby	4,325 00
L. S. & M. S. R. R.	380 00
Total award	$19,359 50

The average per acre in both cases is about $3,000.

POST OFFICE.

Business Transacted During the Month of April.

Deputy Postmaster BUNKER makes his last monthly report, for April, before retiring from the Government service, for a copy of which we are under obligations to him. The new officers have manifested their fitness by taking hold of things with a will, and already they have mastered the intricacies, and everything is working as smoothly as in a well worn groove.

MONEY ORDER BUSINESS FOR APRIL.

No. of domestic money orders issued	909
Amount	$13,830 45
No. of domestic money orders paid	2,003
Amount	26,974 20
No of Swiss money orders issued	14
Amount	349 75
No. of British money orders issued	39
Amount	593 85
No. of British money orders paid	2
Amount	10 92
No. of German money orders issued	28
Amount	567 50
No of German money orders paid	11
Amount	294 88
Amount received on deposit from other offices	50,300 00
Amount remitted to P. M. at New York	37,936 00

MAIL MATTER DELIVERED AND COLLECTED BY CARRIERS

No of letters delivered	120,780
No. of postal cards "	13,536
No. of newspapers "	44,4[illegible]
No. of letters collected	97,864
No. of postalcards "	18,480
No. of newspapers "	14,976

THE GREINER BONDSMEN.—Action has been commenced in the Common Pleas Court by the State of Ohio vs. The Bondsmen of Ernest Greiner to recover $10,000, the amount of the bail forfeited by a present resident of Canada, who was once a Treasurer of Lucas county. The case has not yet been assigned for trial.

The defendants in the suit are Ernst Greiner, Andrew Stephan, George Mack, Geo. Kapp, Adam Ulrich and Wm. Gerlach, Administrator of the estate of Jno. Nauman.

COMMON PLEAS COURT.

Additional Assignments for Next Week—The Grand Jury.

The Common Pleas Court convened Monday for the inauguration of the May term, Judges SENEY and COLLINS in attendance. The assignment made for this week having been laid over until next week, there were no cases to try. The motion docket was taken up and after being heard, the Court adjourned until two o'clock this afternoon, when, after the organization of the Grand Jury, it will again adjourn until Monday next.

The following additional assignments for next week have been made. The previous list will be found in the BLADE of Monday last:

MONDAY, MAY 11TH.

5961—Tracy vs. Stiles.
6059—Pope & Sons vs. Stiles.
7766—Kingsley Ex'r vs. Woodbury.

TUESDAY, MAY 12TH.

7854—Jno. Fitch vs. A Stephan Treasurer.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13TH.

8219—Coldbath vs. Bilven.
8288—Horan vs. Deguan.
8569—Allen vs. Deguan.
9005—Forester vs. Ashley.
9006—Forbes vs. Ashley.
9069—McNary et al. vs. City of Toledo.

O. C. S. S. A.

The Sixth Annual Convention of the Ohio Sunday School Association—Programme.

The following is the programme of the 6th Annual Convention of the Ohio Christian Sunday School Association to be held in Toledo, jointly with the Annual Convention of the Ohio Christian Missionary Society, May 26th, 27th and 28th.

1.—President's Annual Address—H. Geround, Cleveland, O.

2.—Report of Corresponding Secretary—F. M. Green, Kent, O.

3.—"Our One Text Book the Bible," an evening address by W. T. Moore, Cincinnati, O.

4.—Topic for Discussion, "The Church and the Bible."—a, "The dependence of the Curch upon the Bible," E. L. Frazier, Alliance, O.; b, "The Bible in the Family," Isaac Errett, Cincinnati, O.; c, "The Bible in the Pulpit," John L. Darsie, Warren, O.; d, "The Bible in the Sunday School," Robert Moffett, Bedford, O.; (the addresses on this topic not to exceed fifteen minutes each.)

5.—Topic of discussion, "The Study of the Bible." a, How to Prepare to study a Bible lesson?" The Motive, H. N. Allen; The General Knowledge, M. E. Rawson; The Apparatus, A. C. Bartlett; b, How to Study a bible lesson,' George Darsie, Ravenna, O.; c, What it is to Teach the Bible," A. B. Green, Willoughby, O.; d, "Methods and Systems of Teaching," Jabez Hall, East Cleveland, O.; e, "Methods of Reviewing," H. Geround, East Cleveland, O.

6.—The Power of Personal Character in the Teacher," H. J. White, Ravenna, O.

7.—"Business inc uding organization at the order of the Convention."

Prof W. A. Ogden, of Bellefontaine, is expected to lead the singing.

A general invitation to Sunday School workers has been extended and it is expected that this meeting will excel all previous ones in point of attendance and interest.

COMMON PLEAS DISTRICTS.

In the Constitutional Convention on Saturday, the following division of the State into Common Pleas Judicial Districts was agreed upon:

"First—The county of Hamilton, with four Judges, shall form the First District, and shall not be subdivided.

"Second—The counties of Butler and Preble, with one Judge, shall constitute the First Subdivision; the county of Montgomery, with two Judges, the Second Subdivision (another Judge at large being allowed to said three counties); and the counties of Greene, Clarke and Miami, with two Judges, the Third Subdivision of the Second District, and together shall form said district.

"Third—The counties of Warren, Clinton, Fayette and Highland, with two Judges, shall constitute the First Subdivision; the counties of Clermont, Brown and Adams, with one Judge, the Second Subdivision, (another Judge at large being allowed to said First and Second Subdivisions); and the counties of Pickaway and Ross, with one Judge, the Third Subdivision of the Third District, and together shall form said district.

"Fourth—The counties of Scioto Pike and Jackson, with one Judge, shall constitute the First Subdivision; the counties of Lawrence, Gallia and Meigs, with one Judge, the Second Subdivision; and the counties of Washington, Athens and Vinton, with one Judge, the Third Subdivision of the Fourth District, and together shall form said district.

"Fifth—The county of Franklin, with one Judge, shall constitute the First Subdivision; the counties of Madison, Delaware and Union, with one Judge, the Second Subdivision; the counties of Champaign, Logan and Hardin, with one Judge, the Third Subdivision of the Fifth District, and together shall form said district.

"Sixth—The counties of Darke, Shelby and Mercer, with one Judge, shall constitute the First Subdivision; the counties of Auglaize, Allen, Van Wert and Putnam, with one Judge, shall constitute the Second Subdivision; and the counties of Paulding, Henry, Defiance, Williams and Fulton, with one Judge, the Third Subdivision of the Sixth District, and together shall form said district.

"Seventh—The county of Lucas, with two judges, shall constitute the First Subdivision; the counties of Wood, Seneca and Hancock, with one judge, the Second Subdivision; and the counties of Wyandotte, Crawford and Marion, with one judge, the Third Subdivision of the Seventh District, and together shall form said district.

"Eighth—The counties of Ottawa, Sandusky and Erie, with one judge, shall constitute the First Subdivision; the counties of Huron, Lorain, with one judge, the second Subdivision; and the counties of Wayne, Ashland, Richland and Morrow, with two judges, the Third Subdivision of the Eighth District, and together shall form said district.

"Ninth—The counties of Knox and Licking, with one Judge, shall constitute the First Subdivision; the counties of Fairfield, Hocking and Perry, with one Judge, the Second Subdivision, and the counties of Muskingum and Morgan, with one Judge, the Third Subdivision of the Ninth District, and together shall form said district.

"Tenth—The counties of Monroe, Noble and Guernsey, with one Judge, shall constitute the First Subdivision; the counties of Coshocton, Holmes and Tuscarawas, with one Judge, the Second Subdivision; and the counties of Belmont, Harrison and Carroll, with one Judge, the Third Subdivision of the Tenth District, and together shall form said district.

"Eleventh—The counties of Columbiana and Jefferson, with one Judge, shall constitute the First Subdivision; the county of Stark, with one Judge, the Second Subdivision; and the counties of Summit, Portage, Trumbull, and Mahoning, with two Judges, the Third Subdivision, and together shall form said district.

"Twelfth—The county of Cuyahoga, with three Judges, shall constitute the First Subdivision, and the counties of Geauga, Lake and Ashtabula, with one Judge, shall constitute the Second Subdivision of the Twelfth District, and together shall form said district."

VESSELS LAUNCHED.—Two fine schooners built at the yard of Messrs. Baily Brothers were launched on Saturday afternoon, at 4 o'clock, everything passing off to the satisfaction of all. They were named the Belle Hanscome and the J. E. Bailey, and as models of marine architecture are unsurpassed.

The Hanscome is a full sized three masted canaler, 143 feet long, 26 feet beam, and 11½ feet depth of hold. She is owned and will be sailed in the grain trade by Capt. C. Hanscom, of Buffalo, and will cost about $25,000. Her capacity is 21,000 bushels.

The Bailey is also a grain vessel with a carrying capacity of 17,000 bushels. She is a two masted schooner, 125 feet long, 26 feet beam, and 10 feet depth of hold, and cost, when launched, $17,000. She is owned and will be commanded by Capt. Lutt.

ON 'CHANGE.—On Monday's session of the Board of Trade the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with the railroad and canal elevators requesting that they furnish the Secretary of this Board a daily statement of the shipments of grain by lake and canal.

The President of the Board appointed as the committee Messrs. BAGNUS, CARRINGTON and KING.

The object of this resolution is to give the members of the Board a correct knowledge of the actual amount of grain in store here every day, which as matters now stand cannot be known.

LAKE SHORE & MICHIGAN SOUTHERN.

Annual Report to the Stockholders—A Full and Complete Statement of the Earnings and Expenditures Improvements—Branch Lines, &c.

To-day the annual meeting of the directors of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway was held in Cleveland.

The following is the annual report submitted by the officers of the road to the stockholders:

REPORT.

The aggregate length of the system of roads operated by this company, including 109 miles of leased road, was by last report 1,136 1-2 miles.

On the first day of August the Mahoning Coal Railroad, extending from Andover on the Ashtabula branch (twenty-four miles from Ashtabula), to the large and flourishing town of Youngstown, Ohio, a distance of 38 miles, with two short brances into coal mines, since built, was opened for business. This company operates the Mahoning Coal Railroad under the lease for sixty per cent. of its net earnings.

As the business of the Mahoning Coal Railroad is almost wholly the transportation of coal and iron, it was found necessary to reach Lake Erie at the harbor of Ashtabula, hence the Ashtabula branch was extended from Ashtabula to the harbor, a distance of 2 1-2 miles, at a cost of $123,723 69.

The average number of miles operated by this company was:

In 1873, 1,154 miles, earning per mile	$16,824
In 1872, 1,061 miles, earning per mile	16,682

The whole number of miles of railroad owned and leased by this company is 1,181.

EQUIPMENT.

During the year 1873 the equipment was increased to the extent of forty-four new engines and eight hundred and thirty cars of various classes, at a cost of $1,196,502 13.

The equipment at the close of the year 1873 stood as follows:

Locomotives	402
Passenger cars—all classes	253
Freight cars—all classes	9,843

We are now supplied with an abundance of motive power, of which forty-five per cent. (208 locomotives) is new, and the rest in good working condition.

Of the 10,096 cars on the road, 4,298 (43 per cent.) are new, having been added to the equipment since the consolidation in 1869, while large numbers have been built to replace cars worn out or destroyed. It is, therefore, safe to say that nearly one-half of our entire rolling stock is but two years old.

CAPITAL STOCK.

The capital stock of the company is $80,000,000. Of this sum $553,500 is the ten per cent. guaranteed stock of the late Michigan Southern & Northern Indiana Railroad Company. Of this guaranteed stock $350,600 is "assented" (claim for dividends between 1857 and 1863 settled), and $182,900 is "unassented."

BONDED DEBT.

The bonded debt of the company stood:

At the close of the year 1873	$30,195,000
December 31, 1873	24,971,000
Increase	$5,224,000

In bonds of 1882, ($6,000,000 issue) described on page eight to the last annual report.

The increase yielded to the company $4,325,235 28.

The discount, $898,764 72, was charged to "income account," as heretofore, and in accordance with the uniform and conservative policy of the company in this respect.

The funded debt of this company, and the annual charge for interest thereon, is as follows:

	Principal.	Int. 7 p ct.
Lake Shore & Michigan Southern	$30,195,000	$2,113,650
Detroit, Monroe & Toledo	924,000	64,680
*White Pigeon & Kalamazoo	600,000	44,000
	$31,719,000	2,222,330

*Seven and eight per cent.

EARNINGS, 1873.

From freight	$14,192,398 77
From passengers	4,589,729 74
From all other sources	632,380 75
Total	$19,414,509 26
Operating expenses and taxes, 70 and 9-10 per cent.	13,746,598 54
Net earnings	$ 5,667,910 72
Deduct int. and leases	$2,601,210 57
Dividend, 10 per cent. on guaranteed stock	53,350 00
	2,654,560 57
Leaving for the stock 6 1-10 per cent	$ 3,013,350 15
Paid dividend Aug. 1, 4 per cent.	1,978,040 00
	$ 1,035,310 15

Gross earnings, 1870	$13,579,235 53
Gross earnings, 1871	14,909,280 89
Gross earnings, 1872	17,699,935 28
Gross earnings, 1873	19,414,509 26

Increase in gross earnings, 1872, over 1873, $1,714,573 98, which is 9 1-2 per cent.

Of this increase $1,267,536 57 is from freight, an increase of 10 7-10 per cent., and $351,186 45 from passengers, 8 1-2 per cent.

Earnings from other sources show a decrease of $4,049 04.

The average rate per ton per mile on east bound freight (which is 73 per cent. of our entire freight movement), was 1 297-1,000 cents in 1873, against 1 272-1,000 in 1872, a slight improvement; but the rate per ton per mile of west bound freight (which the company cannot control), was but 2 437-1,000 cents in 1873, against 1 658-1,000 in 1872—a reduction of 201-1,000 of one cent—equal to ten per cent. on the entire movement of freight westward, resulting in a loss of net earnings of $411,000, and accounting for one and one-half of the four per cent. increase in operating expenses (the other two and one-half per cent. is wholly in the excess of steel rail laid in 1873 over the amount put down in 1872, which will be shown under its proper head), as we were compelled to move seventeen per cent. more tonnage to secure ten and seven tenths per cent. more earnings.

Had we been able to obtain even the low rate of 1870—one and one half cents per ton per mile—the net earnings from freight would have been larger by $1,720,497, and we should have earned the usual February dividend of four per cent., with a handsome surplus besides.

Earnings from passengers show an increase of $351,186 45, which is eight and one-half per cent.

CONSTRUCTION.

This account, in 1873, amounted to $2,349,959 84. The following details will best explain this expenditure:

Harbor extension of Ashtabula branch, 2¼ miles	$126,713 69
Second track, from Elkhart west, 64 miles	111,579 05
Additional sine tracks, 79¾ miles	960,966 73
Stone and iron bridges	327,045 97
Real estate purchased	257,542 41
New buildings and machinery	565,292 18
Completion Chicago passenger depot, (our half)	85,752 80

We now have in the main track between Buffalo and Chicago 413 miles of steel rails, equal to forty-four per cent. of both tracks. Of the road between Buffalo and Cleveland, 183 miles of double track—equal to 366 miles of single track—all is steel except eighty-eight miles of single trac. On the Cleveland & Toledo Division the steel rail amounts to forty-three miles, and between Toledo and Chicago ninety-two miles.

Experience has abundantly shown that one steel rail will last as long, at least, as ten iron rails laid opposite to it; hence the policy of renewing track with steel—where the traffic is heavy—needs no defense. Under the present low rates of transportation no trunk line can afford to put down iron rails.

The entire outlay for construction was:

In 1870	$2,519,962 84
In 1872	5,804,917 90
In 1871	3,846,986 70
In 1870	1,113,460 90
Total—four years	$13,311,128 45
For additional equipment:	
1873 41 397	$1,196,502 13
1872 72 1,118	1,050,854 90
1871 42 1,151	1,301,450 90
1870 21 903	854,339 45
Total 198 4,298	$5,100,555 98
Total outlay for construction and equipment—four years	$17,417,189 41

GENERAL REMARKS.

Immediately upon the acceptance of the position as President by the present incumbent, and of Managing Director on the line by Mr. Amasa Stone, Jr., a conservative and economical policy was inaugurated. Construction work to the amount of $1,500,000, already ordered, was stopped; a reduction of pay-roll, both by discharge of men and reduction of wages, as far as practicable, was carried out after the panic.

Although the balance sheet printed herewith shows an increase of about $5,500,000 of debt in 1873, it is proper to say that but $400,000 of this amount was incurred in the last half of the year, and that was for construction and equipment contracted for prior to July 1st.

With the recent extraordinary open winter in our favor, we enter upon the spring with the road and equipment in first-class condition, and with fair rates for even the present diminished volume of business, the percentage of operating expenses should be considerably less, and we hope to show a more favorable result in 1874 than for the past year.

When I accepted the position of President of the Company, July 1, 1871, I found its financial affairs in an embarrassed condition by reason of a large floating debt, which had been incurred for construction and equipment. This embarrassment was greatly increased by the panic which followed immediately.

When, therefore, the time arrived for the declaration of the usual February dividend, it was deemed sound policy and for the best interest of the stockholders to pass it.

At this time a more encouraging state of affairs exists. The floating debt has been largely reduced, and it is expected that it will be entirely extinguished within a short time.

Your property possesses great value and resources, and with economical management and a fair degree of prosperity in the business of the country, we think its owners may expect hereafter a regular and fair return upon their capital.

Detailed statements of the earnings and expenses, the resources of the year and disposition of the same, the assets and liabilities of the company, and full statistical information of results of the past year are hereto appended, to which your attention is invited.

The President and Board of Directors again place upon record their acknowledgement of the energy, fidelity and ability of Mr. Chas. Paine, General Superintendent, Charles Collins, the Chief Engineer, and other officers of the company.

C. VANDERBILT,
Cleveland, May 6, 1874. President.

HABEAS CORPUS.

A Waterville Boy Threatens to Shoot his Teacher—Bound over by a Justice and Released by the Probate Court.

William Henry Weaver is a lad 12 years of age, who resides in Waterville, this county. An education being no less needful to him than to other boys, he has been sent to school in that village. Last week his preceptor threatened to whip him for some unknown transgression of the rules, whereupon William Henry pulled a shooting-iron from his pistol pocket (the Waterville boys all have pistol pockets) and threatened to send his tormentor to Kingdom Come. However, he didn't, and shortly after was arrested for threatening to shoot. Being taken before a justice of the peace, a thorough examination of the case was had, resulting in William Henry Weaver's having woven about him a very disagreeable chain of circumstances which consigned him to the lock-up until he could have a further hearing before a higher tribunal. In other words he was bound over for trial before the Lucas County Common Pleas Court.

Yesterday forenoon he was brought before Judge Austin, of the Probate Court, upon a writ of *habeas corpus*, and after a hearing, was released, upon the ground that the commitment was bad, and furthermore, for the reason that according to a recent enactment, in such cases it is necessary to bind the defendant over to the Probate Court instead of the Court of Common Pleas. This is a point which seems to have escaped the attention of the worthy Waterville Justice, and may also be new to other officers of the law holding similar positions. Thus William Henry is allowed to return to the parental roof, but it is to be hoped that his parents have already administered an external dose of black snake, and deprived him of his pistol.

THE MISSING HEARD FROM.—In the BLADE of April 27th, notice was made of the disappearance of Wm. Cragg, from his home in Lynn township, Huron county. A correspondent writing from New Waverly, Ind., May 5, says that a wanderer who gave his name as Cragg was in that town on the 4th inst., and remained one night, taking his way eastward on foot, the following morning. This may be the man who is so earnestly sought for by his family.

PENSION PAPERS.—The following named parties have pension papers at the Postoffice in this city, which should be called for at once:

John Williams, Lorin A. Brown,
Albert B. Kidden, Wm. G. Adams.

Ohio State Agricultural College.

At a meeting of the Agricultural College Trustees at Columbus on the 2nd inst., Ralph Leete, of Ironton, was chosen Chairman; Joseph Sullivan, of Columbus, Secretary, and Henry S. Babbitt, of Columbus, Treasurer. Albert H. Tuttle, of Cleveland, formerly connected with the Pennsylvania Agricultural College and Harvard University, was appointed Professor of Zoology. Messrs. Leete and Noble were appointed a special committee on the Virginia Military Lands, with authority to compromise with the unauthorized settlers on these lands, so as to avoid litigation if possible. A resolution was adopted providing that from this date all students at the College shall have free tuition, and will be required to pay $5 per quarter for incidental expenses. There are now fifty students at the College.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS.

Napoleon.

DEATH OF MR. ADAMS—THE WATERS HOMICIDE.

Mr. Adams, who was killed by the cars on Wednesday evening, was buried yesterday. Sometimes in switching cars the locomotive will back up with one car, run that off on the side track, while the switch being changed at the right moment the locomotive will pass right along on the main track. Mr. Adams was on the main track and saw the switch changed for the side track, and although he was called to, undoubtedly thought it was addressed to some other person. It is altogether gratuitous in saying he was intoxicated. He was buried with Masonic rites.

Charley Waters, who was struck in the head with a cleaver by a butcher boy, is dead. The body is to be taken to Cleveland for interment. The Sheriff has offered a reward for the person who killed Waters, and is having pictures of him made for circulation. He will hardly escape.

School opens again on Monday. Temperance meetings are still the order of the day.

May 2, 1874. MODOC.

The Teeth of Dyspeptics.

Acidity of the stomach will destroy the strongest teeth, unless its effects be counteracted with Sozodont. This pure vegetable antacid and disinfectant protects the dental surfaces by removing every impurity that adheres to them, and preventing the formation of tartar.

A wretched mistake! Not to buy Spalding's Glue.

....That cough can be cured by DR. S. CLAY TODD.

From the Atlantic to the Pacific the reputation of the CABLE SCREW WIRE Boots and Shoes is spreading. They never rip, leak, or fall to pieces. Try them. Look out for the Patent stamp, all others are imitations.

There is nothing like leather Shoes with a SILVER TIP for children. Try them. They never wear through at the toes.

For sale by all Dealers.

TUMBRIDGE & Co., BANKERS, 39 WALL ST. N. Y., send free to any address their book, explaining a new and safe system of operating in stocks, on capital as low as $50, without risk. Puts and Calls negotiated at market rates. Fifty dollars for fifty shares of any stock. Send for a copy.

....CATARRH, CONSUMPTION, &C., ARE CURED BY DR. S. CLAY TODD.

L. W. HAMILTON & Co., Stock Brokers, 48 Broad st., N. Y., have published a very interesting book entitled "How Fortunes are made in Wall Street," which they will mail free to any address. All interested in stock speculations should call or send for a copy.

POPULAR.—The Jones' Scale, Binghamton, N. Y. Free Price List.

YOUTH AND MEN—Suffering from Bad Habit and Effects, Nervous Debility, etc., send 10 cents for Best Book. Nine Illustrations. Dr. E. C. ABBEY, Buffalo, N. Y.

LOST.

A MINK BOA, on Dorr street, one mile west of street car barns. Finder will be rewarded by leaving it at this office.

CLARK'S

NEW RED RASPBERRIES!

TEN THOUSAND TWO-YEAR OLD strong bearing Canes of the above variety for sale, at

Twenty Dollars per Thousand, Three Dollars per Hundred, and Sixty Cents per Dozen.

This is the Best Red Raspberry—prolific bearer, delicious flavor, and perfectly hardy. Any owner of a lot ought to have a few of them.

For sale, to clear the ground, at my home stead. HENRY PHILLIPS.

FOR SALE.

A Manufacturing Business For Sale.

24 Years Established.

The Toledo Soap and Candle Works.

THIS Old Establishment is now offered for sale. Everything complete. Large lot—finely situated. Buildings brick and new, with everything necessary for the manufacture of Soap, Candles, Lard Oil, Potash and Baking Powder. This is a rare chance for any one wishing to get into this line of business.

Satisfactory reasons for wishing to sell. For particulars address (P. O.) If I don't sell will take a reliable partner.

JOHN HOFFMAN.
13th Street, Toledo, O.

Epileptic Fits Cured Permanently by

DR. S. CLAY TODD,

RESIDENT SPECIALIST,

TOLEDO, OHIO.

OFFICE—Room No. 1, 2d Floor, Mulhenny's Block, corner of Summit and Perry Streets.

☞ SEE NAME ON DOOR. Office Hours from 8 A. M. to 7 P. M., Sundays excepted. Consultations free.

Dr. S. Clay Todd cures Liver Complaint, Diseases of the Eye and Ear, Diseases of the Kidneys and Spine, Dropsy, Ague Chills, Bronchitis, Night Sweats, Consumption, Asthma, Throat Diseases, Scrofula in all its forms, Discharges from the Ears, Ulcers, Felon Carbuncles, Piles, Scurvy, Salt Rheum, Old and Running Sores from the joints, Bones, &c., of however long standing, Fever Sores, White Swelling and all forms of Skin Diseases, Rheumatism in all its forms, Gout, Sciatica, Hip Joint Disease, Stiff Joints, Contracted Cords, Flux, Cholera Morbus, Bilious, Remittant and Long Fever cured in from one to three days; Spotted Fever (Cerebro Spinal Meningitis), and Typhoid Fevers cured in from 2 to 5 days. Not necessary to see the patient. Heart Diseases, Palpitation, Neuralgia of the Heart, Diseases of Women and Children, Neuralgia, Partial Paralysis, Nervous Debility, and all diseases of the Urinary Organs, Epileptic Fits and all Nervous Derangements, Gravel, Gravel in the Kidneys, Gall Stones—all Hereditary and Chronic Diseases; Inflamed or Sore Eyes cured in all cases. Dr. Todd has permanently cured over 1,000 cases of Epileptic Fits, not having failed to a single case in the past six years. References furnished.

TESTIMONIALS.

FORT WAYNE, Ind., Sept. 17, 1872.—For the benefit of those who think Consumption incurable I will make a statement of my cure: On the 12th of last March, I was taken with the Lung Fever, or as the doctor called it, Pleuro Pneumonia. I was attended by one whom I had considered the most eminent physician of this city, for three months and a half, during which time he employed five other physicians as counsel. For about three weeks I thought I was getting better, when an abscess began to form in my left lung, and the physicians pronounced it Quick Consumption; from this time I failed rapidly, and raised from a pint to a quart of phlegm and matter each day, and had night sweats; by the 20th of June I had got so weak that I could not lift a glass of water to my mouth, and was confined to my bed. At this time, some ladies in the neighborhood persuaded my wife to employ Dr. S. Clay Todd, and I am free to say I improved steadily from the time I began taking his medicines, and in ten weeks I was able to walk two miles, and felt as well as I ever did; now I walk from three to four miles each day, and neither cough nor spit. I have no pain, and think my lung is healed perfectly.

JOHN A. MILLER, 205 West Washington St., Fort Wayne, Ind.

SHE HAD LOST ALL HOPE.

VAN WERT, Ohio, Nov. 21, 1871.—I hereby certify that my daughter was afflicted with Abnormal Menstruation for 15 months, notwithstanding she was under the treatment of eminent physicians all that time. Having dropsy, sinking spells and supposed to be in consumption, she was greatly reduced in her general health, becoming alarmed at the danger of her situation, we consulted Dr. S. Clay Todd, of Toledo, and I am happy to say, under Dr. Todd's treatment, she became perfectly well in 15 days. I also had another daughter cured of the spines in 10 days by Dr. Todd. Respectfully, ASA FOLLICK.

☞ All diseases, by good treatment, may be readily and permanently cured. Address The poor liberally considered. DR. S. CLAY TODD, Toledo, O.; P. O. Lock Box 149.

Dr. Todd's New Method of Treatment produces no pain; he does not use caustic, morphine, opium, chloral, tobacco, liquors, cubebs, iodide potassium or other harsh treatments, but by the use of **New, Pleasant and Healthful Remedies**, he cures all curable diseases. Dr. S. Clay Todd particularly requests those who have passed through treatment with other physicians, and have received no permanent benefit, and were finally called incurable, to call and make trial of his skill and remedies. All Medicines compounded by the Doctor in person.

—HAMILTON'S Buchu and Dandelion is taking the place of all other diuretic remedies. The intrinsic merit of the preparation has gained for it a deserved reputation as the best remedy for all diseased conditions of the kidneys and liver ever presented to the public. Any physician can tell you that the ingredients in this preparation form a valuable alterative and blood purifier, removing through the healthy action of the kidneys, liver and bowels the impurities of the blood. Buy the remedy at your drug store.

Read the advertisement of Japanese Paper Ware in the new advertisements.

Kearney's Extract Buchu is the only remedy of the same, possessing the real virtue of the leaf, and combined with ingredients which gives it pre-eminence over all others in Bright's disease, gravel, dropsy, diabetes, and all affections of the bladder and urinary organs, male or female. Take no other. Depot 104 Duane street, New York. Physician of 30 years' experience, who has made these diseases a specialty, in attendance to answer correspondence gratis. Sold by druggists everywhere.

—Chills and Fevers, in all forms—

"Fold their tents like Arabs,
And as silently steal away."

under the magic influence of Kress Fever Tonic. A few doses will start the procession promptly and leave in the place of these unwelcome guests sunshine, health, happiness and joy in the household. A box of pills, free of charge, is contained in each wrapper, and when this chill remedy is taken according to directions around each bottle, the proprietors warrant it to cure. Your druggist will supply the remedy.

The Centaur Liniments allay pain, subdue swellings, heal burns, and will cure rheumatism, spavin, and any flesh, bone or muscle ailment. The White Wrapper is for family use, the Yellow Wrapper for animals.

Children cry for Castoria.—pleasant to take—a perfect substitute for Castor Oil, but more efficacious in regulating the stomach and bowels.

Children Often Look Pale and Sick

From no other cause than having worms in the stomach. BROWN'S VERMIFUGE COMFITS will destroy Worms without injury to the child, being perfectly WHITE, and free from all coloring or other injurious ingredients usually used in worm preparations. CURTIS & BROWN, Proprietors, No. 215 Fulton street, New York. Sold by Druggists and Chemists, and dealers in Medicines at 25c. a box.

The Household Panacea and Family Liniment

is the best remedy in the world for the following complaints, viz: Cramps in the Limbs and Stomach, Pain in the Stomach, Bowels, or Side, Rheumatism in all its forms, Bilious Colic, Neuralgia, Cholera, Dysentery, Colds, Fresh Wounds, Burns, Sore Throat, Spinal Complaints, Sprains and Bruises, Chills and Fever, for Internal and External use. Its operation is not only to relieve the patient, but entirely removes the cause of the complaint. It penetrates and pervades the whole system restoring healthy action to all its parts, and quickening the blood. The Household Panacea is Purely Vegetable and all

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

D. R. LOCKE. J. P. JONES.

LOCKE & JONES, Proprietors.

TOLEDO, OHIO, THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1874.

OUR CLUB LIST.

We have made arrangements with the publishers enabling us to send the BLADE and either of the following publications for the price annexed:

MONTHLIES.

THE LADIES FLORAL CABINET price $1.25 per year and BLADE, both one year for $2.50.

POSTOFFICE BULLETIN and BLADE for $2.00.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY, price $4.00 a year, and the BLADE both one year for $4.50.

SCRIBNER'S MONTHLY, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.75.

HARPER'S MONTHLY, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.75.

LIPPINCOTT'S MONTHLY, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.50.

THE GALAXY, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.50.

PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL price $3.00, and BLADE both one year $4.00.

WOOD'S HOUSEHOLD MAGAZINE, price $1.00, and the BLADE both one year for $2.25.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK, price $3.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.25.

ARTHUR'S HOME MAGAZINE, price $3.50, and the BLADE both one year for $4.50.

THE LITTLE CORPORAL, price $1.50, and the LADE both one year for $2.50.

THE NURSERY, price $1.50, and the BLADE both one year for $2.50.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, price $1.50, and the BLADE both one year for $2.75.

AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL, price 75 cents, and the BLADE both one year for $2.25.

AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL, and WHITNEY'S MUSICAL GUEST, $1.50.

WHITNEY'S MUSICAL GUEST, price $1.00, and the BLADE both one year for $2.00.

LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY and TOLEDO BLADE $2.50.

LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY and AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL, $1.50.

LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY and WHITNEY'S MUSICAL GUEST, $1.50.

OLIVER OPTICS' BOY'S AND GIRLS, price $3.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.50.

YOUNG FOLKS RURAL, Chicago, price $1.50, and the BLADE, both one year for $2.25.

WEEKLIES.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE, price $8.00 per year and BLADE for $8.50.

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, price $3.00 per year, and BLADE for one year, $4.25.

HARPER'S WEEKLY, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.75.

HARPER'S BAZAR, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.75.

APPLETON'S JOURNAL, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.75.

PRAIRIE FARMER, price $2.00, and the BLADE both one year for $3.00.

WESTERN RURAL price $2.50, and the BLADE both one year for $3.00.

CHICAGO ADVANCE, price $2.50, and the BLADE both one year for $3.75.

EVERY SATURDAY, price 5.00, and the BLADE both one year for $5.75.

HEARTH AND HOME, price $3.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.00.

RURAL NEW YORKER, price $2.50, and the BLADE both one year for $3.75.

WAVERLY MAGAZINE, price $4.00, and the BLADE both one year for $4.75.

Please remember that we CANNOT ALLOW COMMISSIONS on subscriptions for the above named papers and magazines, except for the BLADE, Locke's Monthly and American Farm Journal as stated.

Our Agents everywhere are authorized to receive subscriptions at the above rates. In making this proposition we only stipulate that we must receive at the *same time* one subscriber for the BLADE for each copy of any other publication ordered from the list. They need not both be sent to the same person, nor even to the same Post Office, and in renewing their subscriptions, old as well as new ones, subscribers may avail themselves of the offer. The Magazines and papers are all sent direct from the offices of publication to subscribers, so that there will be no delay in their receipt. No subscriptions received at the above rates for less than one year.

OUR POSTAL TREATY WITH JAPAN.

On the 18th inst., formal ratifications of the Postal Treaty between our Government and Japan were exchanged in Washington. The provisions of this treaty are an international letter rate of twelve cents per half ounce, to take effect six months after the date, when the Government of Japan shall have notified the United States of its compliance with our demands for the withdrawal of our present postal agents in the land of the MIKADO.

THE IRON HEEL OF CONTRACTION.

The following table affords a correct index to the effect produced upon the business interests of the country by the contraction of the currency. It is compiled from the Mercantile Agency reports, and shows the number of failures in each year, as well as the general condition of the currency:

Year.	Currency.	Failures in Northern States.
1859	Perturbation	2,969
1860	Perturbation	2,799
1861	Contraction	5,935
1862	Expansion	1,652
1863	Expansion	495
1864	Expansion	520
1865	Expansion	530
1866	Expansion	632
1867	Contraction	2,383
1868	Contraction	2,197
1869	Contraction	2,411
1870	Contraction	3,170
1871	Contraction	2,882
1872	Contraction	3,570
1873	Contraction	4,295

☞ All England is just now in a rage over a Russian fashion, followed in honor of the advent of the Duchess of Edinburg, bearing the unpronouncable name of Zakouska, which is nothing more or less than taking a dram before dinner and accompanying it with a preliminary appetiser for that meal, consisting of pickled cucumber, salt herring, smoked salmon, etc., and the liqueurs, as they spell the word, being by far the most important concomitant of the Zakouska. Cosmopolitan fashion writers state that this custom is considered a rather vulgar one in Russia, and is being abandoned by the younger and more cultivated Russian aristocracy, who regard tippling after dinner as far more genteel than before it, and they express horror at its introduction in England at this period, particularly as the admirers of the popular bride follow both British and Russian customs, and enjoy the Zakouska before dinner, and the English liquors and malt beverages after it.

☞ From European correspondents it appears that Madame BAZAINE and her three children are not as neglected by Dame Fortune as the unhappy position of their husband and father would lead one to suppose. The climate of the island of St. Margeurite is deliciously soft and balmy, and although they are not permitted to leave it for the main land, its delightful orange groves and native forests, filled with game, afford beautiful walks and lovely drives. Their lodgings, though small, are commodious, and while subjected to the same regime as the imprisoned Marshal, Madame BAZAINE's great wealth enables her to ameliorate many obnoxious prison regulations, and to procure nearly all the luxuries to which she and her children have been accustomed, which are not attainable in their island home.

☞ Owing to the excessively bad weather in the North of Spain, hostilities between the contesting parties have, for a time, been abandoned, although in the vicinity of Madrid and Bilbao the warfare is active as usual, without, however, any decided result.

☞ They are to have a Theatre Comique at Long Branch this season. In that respect, Long Branch will be almost as attractive as Toledo.

THE GLORIOUS FUTURE.

It is a very great consolation that savans and scientists, like learned physicians, disagree in their theories and philosophy, and that therefore nervous, timid people, who have faith in the terrible predictions of recent meetings of the American Scientific Association, at Portland and elsewhere, regarding the inevitable destruction of our earth at some future day, by burning, freezing, bursting, perpetual darkness, eternal silence, universal drought or starvation, or the tumbling down of the cracked moon, now have these fears dispelled by the still more recent philosophical and scientific theories of Professor DENTON, an eminent geologist, who, in a lecture entitled, "The Future of this Planet and its Inhabitants," takes directly opposite views, predicting happy times and a glorious future to humanity, according to geological science, which, metaphorically speaking, foreshadows to coming generations, for millions of years hence, "a light as brilliant as the sun."

Professor DENTON argues that people who believe that the earth attained its present maturity in less than six thousand years, may not unreasonably suppose that its destruction in some of the ways above specified, may soon come to pass, since if so wonderful a world had grown to its prime in so short a period of time, a few years more might with reason effect its destruction. But when the story of the mighty past is learned from geological science, the conclusion is very different. The first vegetable forms are naked sea weeds, destitute of leaves and branches, and many millions of years after "exogenous trees make their appearance and fruit trees bear their blushing load." The earliest discovered remains of fishes, as found in the upper Silurian, are small in size and imperfect in organization, and only thousands of years after, in the carboniferous period, are they found developed to their highest type. Again, thousands of additional years have elapsed before the "gigantic ichthyosauri" floated in their full protection upon the bosom of the waters, or the "iguanodons" marched through the forests, or the crocodiles and alligators crawled along the banks of rivers, seeking something to devour, or boa constrictors and other giant reptiles attained perfect forms.

The earliest discovered mammals are from the tirassic beds of Germany, and many thousands of years have taken their flight through the "oolitic, cretacious, and tertiary periods" before the higher orders of mammals appear upon the earth. If, therefore, nature gave such immensely long periods of time to the development of the lower forms of vegetable and animal life, will she not give her masterpiece, humanity, even more time to arrive at the perfection of manhood and womanhood? The Professor answers, that such is certainly her wise intention, and that she will not only assuredly do so, but give almost an eternity of time for the enjoyment of human perfection, concluding his hopeful and encouraging lecture by the following sublime peroration: "If, then, a hundred thousand years, at the very least, have been spent in bringing man to his present state, how many must be given us to carry us as high as our highest ideal of human excellence? Ages! And the earth shall have them. Nature is never niggardly of time." What a beautiful belief in comparison to that promulgated by other scientists. Even though it may be heterodox, we accept it with joy and that trusting faith which is said to be the offspring of ignorance, since it is far more delightful, and therefore more reasonable to human comprehension, than Priest WALWORTH'S doctrine, who locates the sulphurous regions of eternal punishment, where his Satanic majesty holds everlasting court, just twenty-five miles below the crust of the earth, and makes the frightful prediction that this thin crust is likely to burst open at any time and engulf earth's sinners, even before the expected day of universal judgment; or Professor YOUNG'S theory, that the sun will be extinguished, and that we shall all freeze and starve to death, and burn perpetually afterwards; or General BARNARD'S philosophy, which somewhat accords with Priest WALWORTH'S theology, that the interior of the earth is a mass of molten fluid which is rapidly burning through the thin crust; or the philosophy of Mrs. HAUCK, of Dayton, who demonstrates that the earth will, in time, become waterless and depopulated, unless new races of men and animals are created to whom water will not be a necessity of life; or yet Dr. LE CORTE'S philosophy, who has discovered that the human race will as surely be annihilated by destroying insects; or even the predictions of the French astronomer, who is positive that the moon is badly cracked, and will one of these days tumble down upon the earth and crush it. Since we have had the good fortune to read a report of Professor DENTON'S lecture, we firmly believe in geology, and the impending horrors which all the other scientists above mentioned have predicted, shall trouble us no more. Geology is the ebenezer upon which we intend to rest our faith in the glorious future of this world for millions of years to come, and neither astrology, psychology, geneology, biology, theology, or any other ology shall ever prevail against it. *Vive Geology!* Gloriously consoling science! May it, too, continue to attain that perfect fruition, in the millions of happy years to come, which it has predicted are in store for this world of ours, annihilating superstition and ignorance by its radiant light.

☞ Berlin has already fully inaugurated a cremation society. Leipsic is about imitating her example, and in the New York Legislature, on the 20th inst., Mr. FISH introduced a bill, incorporating the New York Cremation Society, the incorporators being EDWARD A. CASWELL, HENRY STONE, W. H. POOR, JAMES F. DWIGHT, F. C. BOWMAN, H. G. LORILLARD, J. W. S. ARNOLD and F. M. WILD. The property of this society is to be exempted from taxation and its capital stock is $50,000, in $10 shares.

TRUST THE PEOPLE.

Ours is a government of the people, based upon the principle that enlightened men are capable of self-government. The ballot-box has been established for the purpose of ascertaining the will of the people, and all have acquiesced in the doctrine that the majority must control and govern the people through duly authorized agents or representatives. Without this, there could be no popular government—no government of the people by the people. Minorities, well convinced that they are right, or influenced by selfish motives, do not always yield with good grace, and sometimes, as in the case of the President's veto of the currency bill, even achieve triumphs over majorities. But such triumphs can only be reached where the result depends upon the action of representatives of the people, and not upon the people themselves.

Latterly, there is shown a strong disposition, on the part of those clothed with a little brief authority, to distrust the people—to treat them as though they did not know what they wanted, and were not competent to decide even the most simple questions affecting their private or public interests. This distrust of the people is not confined to any particular branch of our government. It runs through all departments, from the highest to the lowest. It is conceded on all hands that the majority of the people of this country demand more currency, and every candid person will admit that the majority with the people is greater than that indicated by the vote of Congress, yet the President interposes his veto, and the will of the people is set aside.

In our Constitutional Convention, Woman Suffrage, and perhaps other measures of equal general interest, are thrust aside without even giving the people a right to vote upon them. The Convention is not willing that the people shall govern themselves. It is afraid to trust them with the power to say, for themselves, what manner of government they will have. In our State Legislature, although a majority of the people may ask the privilege of locating their own county seat where it will be most convenient, it is almost impossible to induce that body to permit them to vote upon the question and say for themselves where they will transact their county business.

We might multiply these illustrations of the growing disposition on the part of men in authority to distrust the people, but the foregoing are sufficient to direct the reader's attention to the subject and call to his mind any required amount of additional testimony. Why is it that the agents of the people will thus set at defiance the wishes of their principals and treat them as though they were not capable of attending to their own affairs? Are the people so ignorant that they need official guardians to protect them against self-destruction? Who are the men who set at naught well known public sentiment and refuse to trust questions of public policy to arbitration at the ballot-box, that they should assume a degree of wisdom not possessed by others?

The people are constantly progressing in intelligence, and if they were capable of self-government nearly a century ago, they are competent to take care of themselves now. If not, they should be deprived of the right to vote and the power to govern should be vested in the few. If the will of the people is not the government what has become of our Republic? If the people cannot be trusted to regulate their currency, to say who shall vote, or to locate their county seats, they are not fit for a Republican form of Government and should be resolved into a monarchy. If the President, Constitutional Conventions, and State Legislatures know what the people want, so much better than the people know it themselves, those officers should hold their positions for life, and transmit them to their posterity.

Let us say to all men in power—Trust the People. You are but their servants, not their rulers. You are chosen from the ranks of the people to represent their sentiments, not your own. They know their wants and interests, and when you hear their voice, heed it; for in our government, the voice of the People is the voice of GOD. It does not do to assume that the majority are stupid dolts, while wisdom centers in a meagre minority. The juryman who differs from his eleven associates pronounced them all fools, but the people did not see in him the wisdom which he supposed himself to possess. And so it must be with all servants of the public who disregard the plain wishes of the people and show a disposition to distrust those who exercise the rights, powers, and duties of sovereigns.

☞ The tax-paying public will learn with great pleasure that the prospects for the repeal of the swindling mileage system are excellent. The bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 189 to 49, which certainly reflects great credit upon that body, manifesting its comprehension of the necessity of a national economy, and its desire to meet the wants of the public by legislating accordingly. It is earnestly hoped that the Senate will imitate the praiseworthy example of the House, that the nation may at once be freed from this enormous and needless expenditure. The proposed measure provides that members of Congress shall be paid their actual traveling expenses to and from the National Capital, *once each session*, which is a virtual repeal of the present system, and is conclusively the only just way by which this matter can be settled, since the aggregate expenses will be very largely reduced thereby, and no injustice done to Congressmen from the States far distant from the Capital, since all will fare exactly alike.

☞ We do not remember to have seen a precedent anywhere for the veto of the currency bill because it was not in accordance with party platforms. Does the Constitution provide for the exercise of the veto power in cases where the measures vetoed have not been endorsed by partisan conventions? Does this class of reasoning give strength or weakness to veto message?

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

The President's message accompanying the report of the Civil Service Commissioners was very brief, but the report itself was quite lengthy, filling nearly one hundred pages. The Commissioners review the whole subject, and recommend rigid adherence to the competitive system of appointments, claiming that the advantages already derived from it justify its continuance. They thus concisely state the benefical results of the Civil Service rules:

1. They have on an average, where examinations apply, given persons of superior capacity and character to the service of the Government, and have tended to exclude unworthy applicants.
2. They have developed more energy in the discharge of duty, and more ambition to acquire information connected with official functions, on the part of those in the service.
3. They have diminished the unreasonable solicitation and pressure which numerous applicants, and their friends, competing for appointments, have before brought to bear upon the departments in the shape of favoritism.
4. They have, especially where competition applies, relieved the heads of departments and bureaus, to a large extent, of the necessity of devoting to persons soliciting places for themselves or for others, time which was needed for official duties.
5. They have made it more practical to dismiss from the service those who came in under the civil service examinations, when not found worthy, than it was, or is, to dismiss the like unworthy persons who had been introduced into the service through favor or dictation.
6. They have diminished the intrigue and pressure, before too frequent, for causing the removal of worthy persons for the mere purpose of bringing other, perhaps inferior, persons into the service.
7. And for such reasons those officers think that it is expedient to continue the reform upon the method upon which it has proceeded, making from time to time such modifications in details as experience may show to be most useful.

The Commissioners do not discuss the objections to the system; neither do they attempt to explain away its evil results in numerous instances. Their report is rather in the form of an argument in favor of the competitive system, than a report of the facts both for or against it, and suggestions for remedying the evils complained of by the perfection of the system. There is a wide-spread belief, that while it may answer a good service when applied to persons engaged in purely clerical services, it cannot be successfully enforced in all classes of official position. The Commissioners might have thrown light upon the subject, and nothing is needed more, but they have left the whole subject about where it was before experience pointed out the extent of its power for good.

CANADIAN JURIES.

In Canada, the Goddess of Justice, as photographed by her press and exemplified by her jury system, is not only blind, but deaf and exceedingly stupid of comprehension. While with us verdicts are now and then rendered in direct antagonism to law and evidence, a certain jury in the land of the Canucks recently gave indubitable proof that they were far behind even the intelligence of our most unsophisticated jurymen, since they manifested that they were utterly innocent of a knowledge of what they were doing. The case referred to was a libel suit, which was tried in Montreal several weeks since, and at the rendering of the verdict, when the usual question was asked—guilty or not guilty?—it was found that no foreman had been selected, and that each juryman had an individual opinion which he was not slow in expressing. Some shouted "guilty," and others "not guilty;" and when the amazed Judge asked whether they differed, they were all of one mind. After considerable farther interrogation, it came to light that this wonderful jury had mistaken the plaintiff for the defendant, and *vice versa*, whereupon uncontrollable bursts of laughter followed, and the dignity of the court was so insulted that an interruption of its proceedings for some time was the consequence.

Subsequent explanations, however, demonstrated that the laughable verdict was no fun after all. Six of the jurors understood English only and the remainder French alone, consequently they could not confer with each other, and had listened with superhuman patience for three days to the arguments of five of the Queen's counsel, and the elaborate charge of the Judge in vain, for although the Frenchmen had had an interpreter, so imperfectly did that functionary execute his commission, that they mistook plaintiff for defendant, and shouted "non coupable," not guilty, in total ignorance of the fact that the plaintiff had not been on trial. When all was finally explained to them, they began to think the plaintiff guilty, and the Judge, again insisting upon knowing whether they were agreed upon a verdict, they replied that "eleven were and one was not," the refractory twelfth, however, changed his mind suddenly by remarking, to the Judge, "If your honor will allow me, I'll settle this thing in a minute. Eleven of the jury find the defendants guilty, but I don't think they are; however, to end the matter, I acquiesce." Thereupon a verdict of "guilty" was rendered by the astute and comprehensive jury, to which the defendants appeal and demand a new trial. It can truly be said that with all the unsatisfactory workings of the jury system in the United States, resulting from the choice of professional jurymen, who make it a business to hang about Court Houses in order to pick up a job, those who are too old to comprehend the merits of a case, and others who are interested in one way or the other, no verdict so farcial and so unjust has ever been recorded, or one at such complete variance and mockery with the ends of justice.

☞ It is gratifying to learn from recent East India correspondence, that the condition of the famine sufferers of Benares has been greatly improved through the prompt and efficient relief afforded by the British Government and the benevolence of opulent individuals. Although great suffering from want of adequate food still exists, absolute starvation, and the epidemic diseases consequent upon it, have as yet been prevented, while hopes may be reasonably entertained that these disastrous consequences will be prevented.

☞ The Pennsylvania Railroad Company holds stocks and bonds to the amount of $78,594,449.

LABOR TROUBLES IN ENGLAND.

Late London advices give detailed accounts of serious labor troubles, which threaten disastrous results in the agricultural districts of Eastern England. The compensation of farm laborers in the counties above alluded to, has hitherto been at minimum starvation rates, and owing to increase in the price of provisions, they have recently fallen even below that pitiable standard, so that needful sustenance for the common physical wants of life has become an impossibility at the present rate of wages, even with constant and unremitting toil from the first gleams of daylight until the complete darkness of evening. Owing to this unhappy state of affairs, an association was formed under the name of Farm Labor's Union, whose headquarters are at Warwickshire, which was joined by most of those sufferers from inadequate compensation for toil, and this association, individually and collectively, demanded a slight increase of pay, just enough to enable them to support existence. Their reasonable demands met with firm, haughty, and unconditional refusal by their employers. In consequence, the laborers struck for an *extra shilling* per week. As is usually the case where labor takes up the battle against capital, the latter has become the victor, and the employers have retaliated against employes with a vengeance which must eventually destroy their manhood as well as their morality. All the Union men are "locked out," that is, employment has been taken from them, and the declaration published that none hereafter connected with the Union will be permitted to work. The wealthy resident and non-resident landowners are supporting their farmers and tenants in this resolution, going so far as to threaten to eject those who disobey their commands and employ "Unionists."

The result of all this is a condition most saddening to contemplate by the friends of humanity. On the one side are arrayed hundreds of thousands of men, suffering from abject destitution and poverty, consequent upon an overcrowded population and inefficient remuneration for labor, begging for "leave to toil" at rates which will enable them to satisfy the cravings of hunger and provide rude shelter and coarse clothing for themselves and families; while, on the other side, the opulent land owners and their tenants, who live in the enjoyment of a decent competence, are arrayed against them, and not only refuse their reasonable demands, but say, "Go, starve, now and hereafter. We will not employ you at any price." The suffering which must be the inevitable consequence, is incalculable, and may prove a two-edged sword, unless some compromise is speedily effected. When reason is overcome by oppression, the uncontrolable passions of an ignorant multitude suffering from want, penury and hunger, are very apt to lead to disastrous results, and the life, property and prosperity of their oppressors may become jeopardized thereby.

THE DANGERS OF AERIAL TRAVEL.

The last experiment in aerial navigation occurred on the 4th inst., in San Francisco, and its results are anything but encouraging to those who believe in the eventual practical success of aerial traveling. Captain BARBIER, a noted aeronant, with a party of six, consisting of two ladies and four gentlemen, made an ascension on the afternoon above mentioned in the silk baloon "Le Secours." The weather was pleasant and no danger was anticipated. In twenty-one minutes after its departure a carrier pigeon was sent from the balloon with a message saying that the trip had thus far been an exceedingly pleasant and enjoyable one, but presently a change for the worse took place, as a strong wind was blowing, and the balloon moving at the rate of a mile a minute, when, owing to some misunderstanding between BARBIER and his assistants regarding an immediate descent, some of the machinery became displaced, and the balloon burst in the air, the car falling with terrible velocity, striking the ground heavily, and capsizing. Before the aerial travelers could be rescued from their perilous position, the wind caught the balloon and dragged it, with its seven occupants three hundred yards, when its progress was intercepted at the county hospital at San Leandro. Happily no lives were lost, though all the adventurous travelers were more or less injured, several being carried into the hospital immediately for treatment. The balloon had been inflated with 60,000 feet of gas, and the great expense consequent upon its construction and inflation was all lost, since it accomplished nothing for æronautic science and proved a miserable failure. Captain BARBIER is said to have become so much excited when the strong current of wind was encountered, that he lost his presence of mind and made the descent at an unpropitious time, while he did not realize that the balloon had burst. What steam may accomplish for aerial navigation yet remains to be seen, when the new air steamship now in process of construction at Auburn, New York, has been tested. But when the history of the disastrous results of aerial navigation for the past three hundred years is considered, and the scarce perceptible advancement made since that time, is taken into account, together with the enormous expenditures attending so many repeated failures, it is safe to conclude, that ballooning as at present understood, never can result in practical success, and further experiments, while they can accomplish nothing, only tend to loss of life, time and money.

☞ The veto message creates a congratulatory feeling in Great Britain akin to that experienced over a rebel victory during the late war. Without currency, the English people hope to see American manufacturing interests languish, thus improving the market for British products.

☞ It is just one hundred years since lamps were lighted in the streets of Boston, and yet there is a great deal of darkness at the "Hub."

THE TRANSIT OF VENUS.

The passage of the planet Venus across the luminous disc of the sun next December, is the great astronomical event of the century, because students of the heavenly science apply the transits of this planet to determine the distance of the sun from the earth by means of his parallax, which on account of its smallness, they have in vain sought to ascertain by other known methods. The transits of Venus across the sun are further relied upon as a criterion for calculating the lunar and planetary tables of all nautical almanacs, and are applied in determining the distance of the celestial bodies from each other and the earth, and in fixing terrestrial longitude. In correcting the elements of the planets, especially the places of the *aphelia*, the situation of the nodes, and the inclination of the orbits, astronomers also rely upon this phenomenon. But three transits of Venus are recorded in astronomical literature. KEPLAR was the first person who foretold such an event, and who explained its great advantage to the study of celestial matemathics; according to his prediction the first transit of Venus across the sun was observed on November 16th, 1639, another appeared as predicted in 1761, one hundred and twenty-two years after, and in 1769 still another, while two will appear during the present century, the one above alluded to, and another, of less importance, in 1882

The few transits of the planet Venus across the sun, which have occurred since the astronomical science attained sufficient development for the preservation of its literature and its records, have not given observers of this celestial phenomenon sufficient time to make the minute and perfect calculations which they deem requisite to the solution of the important problems which they base thereon, and as a slight amount of uncertainty is still attached to the answer which they hope to gain, affecting thereby the accuracy of lunar and planetary tables, and, in fact, as a contemporary more forcibly expresses, "one of the sublimest problems of the universe," the astronomical world, with, we regret to say, the exception of the United States, are making great preparations to accurately note the approaching transit of this planet across the sun from different localities, where it may be seen to the best advantage, since equal facilities for as accurate observations have not occurred since 1769 and will not occur again until the year 2004. The transit which will take place in 1882, will be of less importance, and, therefore, less reliable. Accordingly, several corps of observers are already on the eve of departure from England, to the desolate regions of the Antarctic Ocean, to there take those preliminary observations deemed requisite to the perfect calculation of this celestial event, while France, Germany and Russia are equipping expeditions to other localities for the same object. The astronomical instruments to be used in making the important observations of this noteworthy phenomenon, are being prepared and selected with the utmost care in regard to their excellence, consisting of telescopes equatorially mounted, and driven by clock-work, so that they may remain steadily fixed on the sun after being once pointed to it; photo-telegraphs of delicate workmanship, constructed to present microscopically accurate transcripts of every phase of the transit; altazimuth and transit instruments, together with all other needful paraphernalia for taking the most possibly accurate observations. Thus far our own Government has done nothing to aid in this scientific work. If anything is to be done it must be done quickly, and, considering its importance, it would redound to our National honor not to be backward in the solution of this needful and as yet imperfectly understood celestial problem, which so greatly affects the accuracy of astronomical mathematics, the terrestrial science of navigation, and all the results of applied astronomy which are based thereon.

☞ New York Churches, or some of them, are "drawing it rather fine" for the purpose of securing audiences. One Church,—the "Church of the Messiah," Brooklyn—advertised that the rector would preach last Sunday, April 26, "God's Gift of Love;" May 3 and May 10, "King Saul;" May 17, "The Christian Fight;" May 24, "The Catholicity of the Church," and that "eminent soloists will assist the choir." The "Church of the Holy Saviour", East Twenty-fifth street, advertises that, "to meet the wishes of such as find in a higher order of Church music an aid to greater devotion, the most careful attention will be given both in the selection and the rendering to combine the excellence of art with the beauty of holiness." We don't know but this may be all right; yet, for our part, when we go to a concert we want to laugh "where the laugh comes in," and applaud when merit demands it; but when we go to Church, we hope to get rid of worldly-mindedness and feast our thoughts upon sacred things, and the "beauty of holiness" cannot be materially improved, in our opinion, by "the excellence of art."

☞ The subject of cremation has come before the New York Legislature, a bill having been introduced, authorizing the formation of a cremation company with a capital stock of $50,000. In Germany, the merits of the new system of disposing of dead bodies, are shortly to be tested by practical experiment in Saxony, the two principal towns of which, Dresden and Leipzig, have offered to legalize it, as an optional course, supposing its advocates can practically make good their assertions in its favor. A furnace for cremation is now actually in process of construction by FREDERICK SIEMENS, a civil engineer. Its cost is estimated at 5,000 marks, or £1,250, and it is calculated that the complete combustion of a human corpse will take about an hour.

☞ In Rugeley, England, March 22d was set apart as a day of humiliation for the drunkenness of the place. There are a few places in this country which are justly entitled to that distinction.

CHEAP TRANSPORTATION.

There are now two reports before Congress discussing the question of cheap transportation and suggesting the means by which it may be obtained. The first came from the House Committee on Railways and Canals, and recommends the lending of Government credit to aid in constructing a freight railway from New York city to Council Bluffs, with branches to Chicago, St. Louis, and perhaps other out-of-the-way places. The next is the report of the Senate Transportation Committee, which looks to water for the desired reduction of transportation rates, and favors the improvement of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, the opening of a canal to the sea down near the route taken by SHERMAN'S army, another one up through Virginia, and the improvement of what is known as the northern route by the lakes, Erie canal, and St. Lawrence Rivers. Of course, either of the methods suggested would involve immense expenditures of money and a heavy draft upon Government credit. While all the proposed improvements have their merits, the question for Congress to settle is not what they would *like* to do, but what they *can* do. The Government is in no condition to expend vast sums of money where the interests of the people do not imperatively demand it, and it is the duty of members to cast aside all local interests and prejudices for the purpose of affording the greatest amount of relief possible consistent with proper economy in the financial management of the General Government. There can be no question but this course will result in the speedy improvement of the Northern, or Lake route, and the enlargement of the Wabash & Erie Canal and its extension to St. Louis. This would only demand a comparatively small expenditure of money, and is consistent with the natural flow of trade. To seek the diversion of trade from its legitimate channels must be attended with enormous expense and limited results.

PARISIAN COURT FASHIONS.

Parisian correspondents write that the court fashions under the MACMAHON regime are again approaching the imperialism which the Thiers republic sought to counteract by the introduction of modes and costumes in conformity with the chaste simplicity which seeks to avoid the perversion of morality by dazzling the senses through indecent and sensual fashion designs. The colored engravings of the illustrated court journals are represented as fac simile copies of the dresses and ornaments of the actresses now personating the different *roles* in *Uncle Sam* and other kindred dramas. In plain Saxon, "fast" and "loose" are said to be the most appropriate and expressive terms in describing the new court styles, the Gothic corsage of the preceding summer having dwindled down to the proportion of a cestus or broad belt, leaving the neck and shoulders nude. Flounces and ruffles are so profusely piled upon skirts, that one writer affirms that in order to follow the new fashions half the energy of France must be spent in manufacturing and making up garments for ladies' dresses, while the uncovered necks of their wearers are overloaded with jewelry, and their heads weighed down with heavy and elaborate structures of false hair, covered with precious stones, artificial fruits, flowers and feathers, in bewildering confusion. To the credit of American modists, it can truly be said that French designs now find far fewer imitators this side of the Atlantic than in former years. The increasing intelligence of American women and their advanced mental and moral condition, have exerted a most healthful and happy influence upon our fashion-makers, who now lead the cosmopolitan world in elegant, modest, artistic and adaptable designs, so multiform and varied as to meet the wants of all classes and conditions of society, rendering it quite possible, with ordinary taste and womanly ingenuity, to present a fashionable appearance, in sensible, modest, and healthful costumes, and as no one standard is imitated, those who follow French fashions are by no means par excellence fashion leaders, but generally people who in early youth had few educational, social, or scholastic advantages, and acquired wealth suddenly, without possessing the requisite knowledge to profit by its good and wise uses.

☞ The Cincinnati *Times* thus gives the provisions of the bill introduced into the Senate by Mr. WINDOM, in behalf of the Committee on Public Lands, to provide for the granting of a sufficient quantity of land in one body to meet the wants of the Russian Mennonites:

It provides that such a body of emigrants as those alluded to may, by application of their accredited agent to the Secretary of the Interior, have a portion of the public lands, not mineral, and not to exceed 160 acres for one person, or 500,000 acres for all, set aside for them, to be regularly entered at any time within a limit of two years. Each person desiring an allotment shall be specified in the application, and each person shall be charged at time of entering full minimum rates for 160 acres, and double minimum rates for 80 acres, the only fee at the time of location, however, to be one dollar for each. The reason of this proposed arrangement, as explained by the author of the bill, is this: The Mennonites own valuable lands, greatly improved, in Russia, which it is impossible for them to put all upon the market at once. They wish to provide, therefore, for their future homes, and to emigrate to, and enter upon them in due form so soon as possible to advantageously dispose of their present possessions. In case of any of the applicants failing to arrive within the provided limit of two years, the land reverts to the government.

The inflationists have all along been clamoring that there is not enough currency, and yet it appears that there is $4,000,000 of authorized national bank circulation in the Treasury at Washington, subject to call, that has not been applied for, and there is $20,000,000 in Eastern banks that may be assigned, if requested, to localities that have not as much currency as they are entitled to by an equitable distribution.—*Chicago Journal.*

All that sounds very well, but it is not true. In the first place, banks where the $4,000,000 is greatly needed to meet the wants of trade, have been unable to get a dollar of it, while the law of one year ago requiring the withdrawal of $25,000,000 from Eastern banks and its distribution West and South has been utterly disregarded by the officer whose duty it was to make the distribution. Let us have facts, and no dodging.

To Our Correspondents.

Questions for this department of the BLADE should be written plainly, and on one side of the sheet only. They should be kept separate from communications regarding subscriptions, books, specimen copies, and other matters of a purely business character. The latter either should be written on a separate sheet, or with a blank line dividing them from the questions. The full name and address should accompany each letter.

B. M., Piper City, Ill.—Men drafted for one and two years are not entitled to any bounty, as drafted men. But the law of March 3d, 1863, provided for a bounty of fifty dollars to be paid to all men drafted for nine months who should afterwards enlist for one year.

C. W. P., Quincy, Ill.—We do not now know of any Government land in Iowa along the line of any railroad that could be taken up under the Homestead law. If any of our Iowa readers do however, we shall be glad to hear from them.

D Vos C., Oak Grove, O.—The abbreviation "op." as found on sheet music is probably the first syllable of the Latin word *opus* meaning work, or the plural of the same word *opera*. We have no means of comparing past and present, but if you will substitute the English word given for the abbreviation you can judge for yourself.

S. T. MONROE, (no address), has a very readable poem in our hands, and we should like to have him inform us where we may address him.

CHARLES G. H., Fairmont, Mo.—We could not consistently comply with your request. Better rely upon yourself in all such matters, and you will be a decided gainer in the end.

John C. Cairo, W. Va.—We think no provision was ever made by the Government for paying a bounty to the three months' volunteers.

D. F. L., Elkhart, Ind., sends us a communication for the BLADE, and yet fails to give his full name. We do not wish to give names to the public, but must insist on the enforcement of the rule. We can print no articles that are unaccompanied by names.

A. K., Germantown, Pa.—Would like to know the real name of "Pansy."—We cannot give the real names of correspondents who write under a *nom de plume* without their express permission.

R. M., Odensboro, Ind., states his case in this wise: "Mr. A. deposits $1,000 in a National bank. It fails; and the question arises, "Is the Government responsible for the money?" The Government is responsible for the circulation of the suspended bank, because for every ninety cents in currency issued by the bank, the Government holds its own bonds to the value of a dollar. If A should hold $1,000 in notes of a National bank, the notes would not be depreciated in consequence of the bank's suspension, and would still be worth their face. But if the bank suspend payment holding $1,000 of A's money, the Government would in no wise be responsible for its return, and A would be obliged to take his chances as a creditor of the bank. The Government guarantees the notes of the bank, but not its deposits.

J. L. S., Colorado.—We know nothing whatever of the class of books you name, except that the great majority of them are humbugs. You would better consult some reliable physician at home.

A. L. B., Shaw's Landing, Pa.—We cannot tell from your letter what firm you wish to address, as there are six establishments of the kind in Toledo. You might, if you choose, write to the Milburn Wagon Works, M. J. Cooney & Co., and Stebbins & Carter, all of Toledo, and they or any of them will give you the required information.

M. L. D., Sherman, N. Y.—We have no confidence in the firm you name, and would advise you not to send them any money.—Poultry keeping is claimed to be profitable by those who have given it attention. Perhaps one hundred fowl per acre are all that should be kept under ordinary circumstances. We send you by mail a copy of the AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL, which contains a very instructive article on poultry-keeping.

RICHARD LARGE, Millersville, Ills., would like to procure the address of any of the connections or friends of a family by the name of McGinnis, who lived near Washington, Guernsey County, Ohio, some forty years ago.

GEO. B., Brockport, N. Y.—The statement in regard to the piece of land was made through a misapprehension of the question. We understand the matter just as you do.

MATRIMONY, Warren, Wis.—The use of a ring in the Episcopal marriage ceremony is a custom of long standing, having been followed in both the Greek and Roman Churches many hundred years ago. Just when it was first introduced into the marriage ceremony we cannot now ascertain, but the practice is a very common one in the present day among persons who are not members of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

J. E. B., Mitchell Creek, Pa.—We know nothing of the "Art Association" you name in your letter. The probabilities are that it is a swindle. At any rate, we advise you not to risk money in their hands.

SUBSCRIBER, Iron Furnace, O.—We cannot give you the "lucky numbers" of the Louisville drawing, since we have no list. But the drawing came off regularly as advertised, and if you write to the *Courier Journal*, Louisville, Ky., they can probably send you a paper or an extra, containing a full list of the drawing.

P. W. M.—A correspondent says you can procure a good copy of the book you inquired for through the BLADE of March 19th, by addressing S. R. Wells & Co., No 389, Broadway New York, and enclosing $100.

JOHN F. Jr.—The publishing house you name is reliable. They will fill any orders you may send them. We are sorry not to be able to oblige you, but our invariable rule is that all orders for books must be sent at the time the subscriptions with which they are designed to be classed are forwarded, otherwise they cannot be filled at the reduction offered. This rule is necessary because it is impossible to go back over the books to ascertain who are subscribers, and because persons who are not entitled to the benefits of our book offer would take advantage of the false claim that they were subscribers to purchase books. The circulation of the Toledo BLADE is 105,000; of the New York *Sun* 130,000 weekly and 67,500 daily; of the *Tribune*, weekly, 80,000; *World*, weekly, 50,000; *Herald*, daily, 90,000; the New York *Ledger*, 300,000.

A YOUNG LADY, (no address).—Superfluous hair may be removed from the face by applying the following preparation: Sulphuret of potassium one part; pearl ash (dry) one part, quicklime eight parts. MIX and apply as an ointment, but do not leave it upon the face for more than ten or fifteen minutes, at farthest. It is regarded as both effective and safe if properly used.

FORTY EIGHT, (no address).—One of the most cleansing and purifying articles for the bath, and especially for such cases as the one you name is a strong solution of spirits of ammonia or aqua ammonia. Put one tablespoonful to a half gallon of tepid water.

WM. P. L., Redwing, Minn.—The book of which you write (Betsy Bobbett, by Josiah Allen's wife) can be had by addressing Bliss & Co., book publishers, Toledo, O. The price, we think, is $2.00.

FRANK B., (no address.)—Should an alien die in this country without relatives this side the ocean, his heirs could not in any respect be debarred from inheriting his property through the fact that they were citizens or residents of a foreign land. His nearest kin would inherit his property regardless of residence or citizenship.

SAMUEL J. M. ANDREWS, Edgewood, Effingham Co., Ills., would like to know the whereabouts of William Stockdale, formerly of Co. D. 45th Ohio Infantry; also of William McCumber, who was Superintendent of the Hospital Department of the Soldiers' Home at Springfield, Ill., a short time in the summer of 1865; also of James Patterson, who was also at said Soldiers' Home at the same time. When last heard from, he had started for Cincinnati, Ohio.

CHAS. A. G., Dunville, Wis.—We begin to number the Congresses of the United States from 1789, the year in which George Washington's first Presidency began. As each body of Congressmen is elected for a term of two years that length of time is spoken of as a "Congress." Thus the term of the first Congress extended from 1789 to 1791, etc., etc. It is probable that Harper has the more foreign illustrated articles, taking the numbers of a year through.

MISS S. L., (no address), can prevent moths from attacking her furniture by strewing black snuff in the crevices, or by placing in different parts of the upholstery small silk bags filled with what the druggists call "bitter apple." Papers dipped in turpentine, and small pieces of camphor gum scattered about are strongly recommended.

W. S., Coral, Mich.—We do not know that there was ever a law extending the right of suffrage by general enactment to aliens in the army. The foreign born soldier who has served three years in the army may receive naturalization papers at once after having declared his desire to become a citizen, but he must renounce all other allegeiance in the usual manner and form.

J. H. W., Arena, Wis.,—wishes to procure the address of some firm manufacturing steel bars to be used as bells.

H. A. L., Redwood Falls, Minn.—You have probably read in the news columns of last week's BLADE the statement of the capture of Bender, the notorious murderer, in Salt Lake City. He has been brought back to Kansas, and now confined in jail there.

N. McL., Tyre, (no State)—Messrs Harper & Bros., publish a very good book on matters of etiquette entitled *The Bazar Book of Decorum*. Messrs Carleton & Co., New York, also publish a work of the same character.—It is impossible for an entire stranger to say to what trade you would be best adapted, so many questions enter into such a decision which can only be answered by yourself. We do not know anything discreditable of the party you name.—You may yet hear from your money.

O. K. V., Burlington, Iowa.—We cannot send books from the BLADE book list at the prices given in the list, unless such order includes one or more of our publications.

A. H. SPRAGUE (no address.)—The causes and character of the Ashantee war, recently closed, are too extensive to discuss in these columns. But the April and May numbers of LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY contain articles on the subject which convey a great deal of interesting information on the subject of the English settlements at Cape Coast Castle, etc. If you send twenty cents, we will mail you both numbers.—The prominent political organizations of England at present, are the Liberal, Tory, and Home Rule parties. The Liberals had been in the ascendancy till the recent parliamentary election, when the Tories led by Hon. Benjamin Disraeli gained a decisive victory.

NOVELTIES, Oakwood, O.—THE BLADE Printing and Paper Co., Toledo, O., always keep in stock sheets of Bristol card-board, of all sizes. The size 22x28 inches will cost you 10 cents per sheet, and such paper as you wish will cost from one to two cents per sheet. Had you sent real name (as requested at the head of this column) the Company would have been glad to write to you, thus saving at least ten days.

Wm. H. H., New Philadelphia, Ills.,—would like to procure some eggs of the Aylesbury and Skova duck; also eggs of the white Guinea fowl, for breeding purposes. As we cannot now name any dealer who can furnish all these, we give the questions a place here, instead of answering by mail as requested, merely suggesting to dealers who may chance to read this notice, that an advertisement in these columns would doubtless bring a great number of orders of this character.

H. H., Osseo, Mich.—All your questions regarding planting trees on homesteads have been answered in this department of the BLADE since your letter was written. See last two numbers of this paper.—Canada Southern bonds can be bought here at seventy cents on the dollar.—The paper you inquired for is an advertising sheet printed to sell sundry little catchpenny devices kept by the publishers.

W. F. K., Glenville, Neb., sends us an Algebraic problem which he wishes us to solve. As has been remarked previously, this department of the BLADE is not designed to afford a lodgement for puzzles or conundrums of any character. If W. F. K. knows the answer to his problem it would not add to his enlightment for the BLADE to attempt to inform him; and if he does not know we could hardly attempt to explain to him how a solution is effected

Miscellaneous.

CRATER OF KILEUEA.

Graphic Description of a Visit to the Crater of Kilauea.

A lady correspondent of the Indianapolis *Journal*, writing from Hilo, Hawaii, Sandwich Islands, thus describes her visit to the celebrated crater of Kileuea:

THE CRATER ITSELF.

At last the place was reached. We stood on the high bank of an irregular lake of liquid fire which was seething and rolling to and fro, glowing with exceeding great heat and sending up vast columns of smoke. The bottom of the cliff was ringed with fire and seemed ready to crumble into the lake beneath; the shore line of lava looked like blood compared with the black cliff above it. A cascade of fire was playing in the centre of the lake, boiling up, rolling downward, bubbling, tossing up jets of molten lava, and scattering fiery spray all around it. Then for a few moments it subsided, and the lake cooled over on top, a thin crust of gray and black, but it soon heaved up slowly in the center and spouted up a fiery geyser, thirty or forty feet high, that played like a colossal fountain several minutes, flinging out showers and clots of lava, and dashing up red billows against the cliffs with a sound resembling surf on a rocky shore, only that it had

SOMETHING INDESCRIBABLY HELLISH AND DIABOLICAL

in it that filled me with an awful shudder. That swashing, self-conscious sound, now faint, now loud, was to me by far the most impressive part. I think I should go mad if I had to listen to it long, and realize that it was caused by the restless, surging sea of fire that seemed the very lake of perdition.

A large part of the cliff has fallen in lately, almost dividing the lake into two parts, and the southern part, that farthest from us, seemed most active, for whenever the smoke cleared away we could see great fountains and showers of lava, the spray being constantly flung against the shore, and the billows unceasingly tossed against the cliff, dashing an writhing in eternal torment. Sometimes the wind shifted and sent the smoke right in our faces; it was just like the fumes of lighted matches, and set us to coughing and strangling in a moment. We were at times almost suffocated, but dared not go farther on, for the edge of the cliff was seamed and scarred and scorched with fires, so that it hung together in crisp layers, with wide gaps between, whence issued volumes of smoke and the peculiar glimmer and glow of great heat. The place on which we stood was so hot that we had to keep moving about less our feet should burn, and I found by experiment that I could not hold my hand over a crevice more than a few seconds, owing to the intense heat. The scene below was constantly changing; sometimes when the lake had crusted over, a billow of red-hot lava would roll from under the cliff and break in the crust near the shore, roll again and break in more, etc., etc., all across the lake, till it was once more a mass of liquid fire, that boiled and bubbled in restless cascades, or spouted up jets with great force forty feet in the air. Remember,

THERE WAS NO FLAME OR BLAZE ABOUT ALL THIS.

It was liquid matter, heated to red or white heat, resembling exactly the molten iron seen in foundries. This lake is constantly changing. At the time of our visit it was three or four acres in extent, and the surface was one hundred and twenty feet below the top of the cliff. Huge masses of rock are constantly tumbling in, and there is always danger to visitors who stand close to the edge. Only a few days before, a party had a very narrow escape; they were standing on a ledge of rock, when they heard a swashing sound beneath them, and had just time to step backward when the entire shelf was precipitated into the boiling lava below. We stayed about three hours, watching the lake glow and brighten and change; sometimes it was a black surface, zigzagged with vivid livid lines of fire or variegated with rings of rose color, sometimes a cluster of flame-hued fountains spouting up here and there through the crust, which gradually broke up and melted into the seething mass. Then gathering a lot of specimens, we toiled back over the jagged lava that cut our shoes and blistered our feet, visiting on the way the old north lake, now inactive.

THE VIEW AT NIGHT.

from the high western *pali* or cliff overlooking the crater is grand beyond description. Madam Pele gives brilliant pyrotechnic displays that shows with most vivid effect in the darkness, flinging her fiery showers high in the air and lighting up the gloomy caverns magnificently. She is supposed by the natives to be the goddess of the volcano, and to manifest her anger by eruptions. Sometimes by way of change she visits the summit of Manna Loa, and her journey is accompanied by thunder, lightning and earthquakes. She and her attendants are said to have emigrated from Tahiti soon after the Hawaiian deluge.

HAWAIIN SUPERSTITION.

It was formerly *tabu* for any one to descend into the crater except the priests of Pele, who went to offer fruits, hogs, taro, etc., but a chiefess of high rank resolved to break the *tabu* and show the people how false the old superstitions were. In spite of priests, she made her way to Kileuea, went down into the crater, and threw in bunches of *ohela* or sacred berries, an act of sacrilege. This was certainly an act of heroism in a woman who had been taught to fear Pele and shun the volcano, lest she be instantly killed by the angry goddess. Kileuea is on the bank of Manna Loa, 4,000 feet above the sea, and 29 miles from Hilo. It has never been known to overflow its banks, but the lava sometimes flows out through subterranean passages.

THE GREAT ERUPTION.

Not many years ago a column of lava burst from the side of Manna Loa, one thousand feet high and was sustained at that height 21 days, while rivers of molten lava, two miles broad ran down into the sea, destroying much property and killing many people. The air was full of light ashes, cinders and Pellis hair, fine grassy fibres, like the threads of burned glass, formed by currents of air blowing across lava spray. The natives still speak of that time with a shudder.

Near the Volcano House is a bank of pure sulphur, where one can obtain beautiful crystals. Through little vents in the surface, steam constantly issues, and one can hear a sighing, puffing noise below. In a little glass house near by, a hot vapor bath has been arranged. Not far from this place is a grove of young sandal-wood trees, but it is *tabu* to break off a twig or even a leaf.

THE RECORD BOOK.

Some years ago a large book was placed in the Volcano House, with a request that visitors should record any striking phenomena they might witness, "for the benefit of science." The most of the entries are insipidly commonplace, telling of the trip from Hilo, the bad roads, refractory conduct of mules, character of guides, etc., not of the slightest interest to strangers, but some are fine discriptions, and others witty burlesques. One man pathetically remarks, "After a long, hard journey from Hilo, I reached Kaluaea and found it very quiet; a little smoke and no fire to be seen. Just my luck; never knew there to be any excitement while I was around."

Here is one evidently written by a cynic: "A man who is a vagabond and a wanderer on the face of the earth, ceases to have sensation. He is *blase*, used up, has lost his enthusiasm of early youth. I sat to-day for hours, beside a boiling lake suggestive of hell, saw the leaping flames, and heard the sighs of the tortured wretches that seemed to struggle for freedom, till the lava cracked and surged, and shone with a fierce heat; but there was no awe, enthusiasm or admiration. The scene may revisit my memory in after years, particularly after hearty suppers, but I am shocked at my cold indifference to-day. It is possible to travel too much."

Mark Twain spent some time here and leaves two pages of drawling writing, resembling his speech as much as possible. 'Twas here he dreamed the wonderful dream concerning the burial place of Kamehameha I. The grave of that noted monarch is unknown, but Mark said he rose in eager haste, took a lantern, followed the path he had seen in his dream, down into the crater, over boulders, along chasms and deep ravines, till he came to the identical place. In haste he removed the earth, rolled away the stone, and then taking off his hat stood in reverent silence a moment till he could collect his thoughts and realize that he had indeed discovered the tomb of the great Kamehameha. He turned and looked; there wasn't a single bone there! Then he rushed up the cliff again, and lamed his horse, Oahu, until he (the horse) couldn't stand without leaning against a wall. Mark said he would never believe a dream again so long as he lived.

☞ The series of meetings held in this city by Rev. A. B. EARLE, the evangelist, have awakened a deep interest on the part of ministers and church members generally, and quite a number of conversions have been the immediate result of the religious interest and zeal thus aroused. Of course, the richest fruits of Mr. EARLE's ministrations remain to be gathered through the efforts of those whom he has inspired with new religious life for more efficient work in their several fields of labor hereafter.

OBITUARY.—Mrs. Worcester, wife of Judge Samuel T. Worcester, died at her residence in Nashua, N. H., April 29th, at the age of 74 years. Mrs. Worcester was a public-spirited lady, whose whole life, both there and at her old home in Norwalk, Ohio, had been devoted to the temporal and moral good of humanity. She was an indefatigable worker in all the causes she espoused, a woman of fine literary taste, and well and favorably known among lecturers and literary people here and elsewhere, who ever received a cordial welcome and bountiful entertainment at her house. Her life has been a bright example to the world, and she passes away leaving a memory that will be long cherished by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

FIRST GRAIN SHIPMENT DIRECT FOR EUROPE.

We have frequently presented facts, through these columns, going to show that on the completion of improvements for making shipments via. the St. Lawrence River, vessels may be loaded at this point with cargoes of grain to be discharged at European ports, thus saving the expense of transhipment, storage, etc., usually attending the transportation of Western produce to European markets. This opinion has been entertained by many of our most enterprising and intelligent business men, who have anxiously awaited a favorable opportunity for the inauguration of a trade which is designed to place Toledo in full possession of the advantages to which she is clearly entitled by virtue of her position at the farthest Western terminus of a direct water line to Europe.

Believing thus, the brief mention, in last evening's BLADE, of the fact that the schooner C. *B. Benson* had been chartered by E. R. WILLIAMS & Co., to carry a cargo of corn to Cork, Ireland, afforded conclusive evidence that our city was entering upon a new career of prosperity. The charter of the C. *B. Benson* provides that she shall load direct for Europe with corn, at the rate of 30c., gold, per bushel of 56 pounds; the vessel to take such cargo to Cork for orders and to receive above mentioned freight in event of discharge at any port in the United Kingdom. In case her cargo is ordered to France or Germany, the freight will be ten per cent. additional, viz: 33c., gold, to any port between Havre, France, and Hamburg, Germany.

The *Benson* is a Toledo craft of 24,000 bushels capacity, owned by A. ANDREWS, Jr., E. H. NORTON, and Captain DUFF. The latter named gentleman commands her and will have charge of her in this her first trans-atlantic trip.

We congratulate the said owners and E. R. WILLIAMS & Co., the shippers, on this first venture of the kind, and, while wishing them every success, believe their enterprise will be the precursor of many similar shipments. The round trip will probably be made within sixty days, and the Captain has reason to expect a return cargo, which will make the voyage one of profit to her owners, while those familiar with the expense usually attending European shipments of grain, will readily see the advantage of this method of marketing grain over that hitherto in vogue.

Messrs. E. R. WILLIAMS & Co., we learn, are making efforts to charter other suitable vessels for this trade, and it is probable that the present season will witness the discharge of several cargoes of grain at European ports direct from Toledo. The inauguration of this trade by E. R. W. & Co., is but another evidence of their enterprise and well known business capacity, which has already contributed much to the promotion of Toledo's commercial interests.

SHIPMENTS AND RECEIPTS.

The shipments and receipts by Lake, during the month of April, were unusually large, indicating not only a rapid growth of trade at this point, but a prosperous season for our shippers. The following table shows the shipments to the ports named:

	Wheat bu.	Corn bu.	Oats bu.	Flour bbls.
Cleveland	35,356	83,969	23,498	...
Erie	38,421	403,716	...	...
Buffalo	24,707	67,096	11,255	2,750
Oswego	36,189	86,448	...	...
Ogdensburg	44,351	68,127	...	3,569
Dunkirk	...	59,251	...	...
Walkersville, Ont	...	47,000	...	...
Port Huron	...	6,000	2,000	...
Kingston	...	17,500	...	...
Au Sault'e	...	...	1,000	...

In addition to the above, there were shipments of 156,000 staves to Buffalo, and 192,000 cubic feet of timber to Kingston.

The aggregate receipts during the month were as follows:

Lumber	8,604,000	Potatoes, bbls	848
Lath	1,791,000	Ice, tons, est	10,000
Shingles	1,778,000	Cedar Posts	15,024
Salt, bbls	11,054	Coal, tons	68
White Lime, bbls	1,060		

This shows a good month's business for the opening of navigation on the Lake.

TWO DEMOCRATIC DAILIES.

"It never rains but it pours" with the Democracy of this city. A few days ago a company was organized, with $40,000 capital, for starting a daily Democratic paper. Material, we understand, has been purchased and the proposed daily, it has been announced, will make its appearance about the first of June. This did not please the *Democrat*, which was not included in the arrangement, so it proposes to start a daily edition, to commerce on Monday next. It is the old story of "dividing a cherry," but we shall expect such disclosures and exposures as can only be made where "rogues fall out."

DECORATION DAY.

General Order from the Commander of the G. A. R.

The following order relative to Decoration Day has been received from the Adjutant General's Office of the Grand Army of the Republic, which will be of interest to all:

HEADQUARTER'S G. A. R.
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
BOSTON, MASS., April 24.

General Orders, No. 10.

In accordance with the Rules and Regulations, the 30th day of May will be observed as Memorial Day by the Grand Army of the Republic, and the customary honors will be paid to the memory of our departed comrades, by public services and by visiting and decorating, so far as we are able to do so, the graves where they lie.

In making arrangements for its observance, Departments and Posts are recommended to invite the co-operation of comrades not members of the Grand Army, the clergy, and of all who may feel interested in these memorial services.

It is earnestly hoped that in those places where there are no Posts, the day may not be suffered to pass without suitable recognition, but that friends and citizens will endeavor to see that the graves of those who sleep among them are not left unvisited. By this simple act, we seem to establish a communion among all who have loved our brave while living and who honor them when dead, and we join alike with the solemn processions which move with banners and music from our crowded cities, or with the little family, which on some lone farm, will, on that day, visit the quiet spot where rest the remains of him who was once a beloved brother or darling son. Together we inculcate the lessons of that self-devotion by which alone a nation can be saved in so terrible a crisis of its fate as that through which our own was called to pass, and we bow our heads in gratitude to the Almighty for his signal favor in preserving our Government from threatened destruction; and, together, we re-dedicate ourselves to all the duties of patriotism that are still upon us.

Nor would we seek to honor the memory of those alone whose graves we are able to visit, but through them to commemorate all that have passed away, who, in the hour of trial, did their duty faithfully. Our noble dead are scattered far and wide, but whether they lie on the land or in the sea, let all be united in our remembrance, wherever a single hand may strew with flowers the last resting place of a faithful comrade.

By order of
CHARLES DEVENS, JR.,
Commander-in-Chief.
HENRY R. SIBLEY, Adjutant General.

RAPID TRANSIT.

Toledo to Detroit in One Hour and Forty-Nine Minutes.

Yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, the mail train on the Pennsylvania (T. T. & E.) Road was some thirty-five or forty minutes late on arriving at Toledo, necessitating the holding of train No. 5, bound North on the Canada Southern Railway, until its arrival, in order to transfer the mail and passengers going towards Detroit. Among the passengers were some desirous of making connection at Grand Trunk Junction without fail, and so informed Conductor MURRAY, who told Engineer CLARK just how matters stood, when the train started for the City of the Straits. The trip was made in the unprecedented time of one hour and forty-nine minutes from the depot in Toledo to the one in Detroit. Eleven stops were made on the way. Fifteen minutes at each end of the road were used in running from Toledo to Alexis, and from Grand Trunk Junction to the Detroit Depot, making one hour and nineteen minutes from Alexis to Grand Trunk Junction. The engine used on this occasion was No. 3, a HINCKLEY coal burner, 14x22 inch cylinder, and four foot ten inch wheel. This was the mail train. The express train has not been put on the road yet. The rate of speed attained was about a mile in a minute and a half.

NEW FREIGHT TRANSFER HOUSE.—The new freight transfer house of the Canada Southern Railway, located above the city near the canal crossing is about completed, and already that portion of the city looks much better for it. The building is 450 feet in length by 25 feet in width, with all facilities for the rapid transfer of merchandise of all kinds. There are nine switch tracks of sufficient capacity to accommodate the large number of cars which will constantly be required.

EXTINGUISHED TOLEDOANS.—When Toledo sent her delegation of officials to Cincinnati a few days since, she presumed that each was an honest *burgess* wearing a laurel wreath of reasonable size. But they have gone down there and have been completely extinguished with the flood of honors which have poured in upon them. Who would ever recognize the plain and unassuming "mob" which left here a few days since, in the following which appears in the Cincinnati *Enquirer* of yesterday, under the caption of "Distinguished Toledoans."

"A deputation of representative Toledo men, consisting of Mayor Jones, Senator Potter, Hon. John Sinclair, Mayor Otto Klein, Captain John Kountz, Captain Geo. W. Merrill, R. Wallace, Robert H. Bell, T. N. Cook, D. Segar, A. T. Stebbins and Geo Sletter were in the city yesterday to see the manners of the town and learn how they do things in cities of the first class having a population of a quarter of a million or more. They visited the Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade in the morning and looked in on the Board of Common Council during the afternoon. They return to their homes this morning."

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS.

Monroe.

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE CITY—ACCIDENT—THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT—SACRED CONCERT—PERSONAL.

EDITOR BLADE:—Some valuable and notable improvements are being made in the city and vicinity, which would seem to contradict the idea that hard times are very much felt in the Flour City. The Presbyterian Church, which has been undergoing extensive repairs and improvements during the winter, is completed, and will be occupied for the first time for religious services on Sunday next. The pastor will preach, in the morning, a discourse upon "The Preaching for the Times."

Two or three business blocks are in process of erection and in contemplation. The dry goods store of J. M. Bulkley has received a new French plate glass front, lights six by nine feet, and the entire front elegantly decorated, a profusion of gilding on black producing a splendid effect. The large hard ware store of Bruckner & Newton has likewise been ornamented with a plate glass front, and will be richly decorated. Quite a "plate glass fever" has seized the occupants of other stores, and Front street will soon be lined with those attractive crystal fronts.

A terrible accident occurred at Angell's steam flouring mill on Wednesday afternoon, by which the wife of the proprietor, Joseph Angell, came very near losing her life, and as it was, suffered the loss of her left arm. She was passing through the mill, when some article which she was carrying upon her left arm became entangled in the cog-wheels and before she could save herself her arm was drawn into the wheel, the bones broken, and the flesh torn off nearly to the shoulders; her daughter, who was near, caught her mother, and by exerting her entire strength, pulled the unfortunate woman away from her perilous position, leaving a large share of the arm in the machinery. Dr. Sawyer was called, and at once removed the shattered limb, and the lady, it is thought, will recover.

The temperance movement is making steady, though slow advance. Meetings are held weekly, and large numbers of names are upon the pledge. Two large mass meetings have been held, and good results. The only thing that has arisen which could be called a test of power, was a transaction last week, which resulted in a victory for the ladies. The saloonists sent a paper, signed by seventeen of their number, to merchants, with whom they dealt in Toledo, to ship no more goods for them by the U. S. Express line, on account of what they considered an offensive position taken by Jos. Clark, Esq., the Express agent in this city, in the temperance question.

The paper was sent to the Superintendent of the Express Co. who at once requested an explanation of Mr. Clarke; his position was defined very clearly in an interview with the Superintendent—another view of the question presented, which was mutually strengthened by a committee of business men who visited the Express office in Toledo with a paper signed by nearly all the business men of this city setting matters in their true light, though threatening no one nor making any rash statements. The result was the vindication of Mr. Clarke, and the matter dropped.

A grand sacred concert is to be given by the ladies of the Presbyterian Church in the new and beautiful audience room of the church, on Wednesday evening next, May 6th, when, it is understood, our own amateurs will be assisted by some of the talent of Toledo, and doubtless listened to by many of the people of the "Future Great City."

Considerable real estate has changed hands within a short time in this city. Judge I. P. Christiancy has sold his residence, corner of Macomb and First streets, to George W. Armitage, and removed to Lansing. George Bruckner has sold his house and lot. Captain Hoff, J. M. Sterling, Mrs. J. R. Barry, E. G. Morton and others, have disposed of residences at fair prices. The desirability of Monroe as a place of residence is well known, and her accessibility by railroad will render the advantage more available to those doing business in larger cities who desire more quiet and inexpensive homes than the rapidly increasing valuations of property will allow for pleasant homes afford in those cities. For Toledo business men the attraction is very great; the close proximity to their business and the cheapness and rapidity of railroad accommodations offer great inducements, added to the health, beauty and social attractions of Monroe. We confidently expect to see some large additions to our population from that direction before many years.

MARK.

May 1, 1874.

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Moore's (Thomas) Poems—Illustrated
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Humorous Poetry
Spencer's Complete Works
Scott's Poetical Works, with Illustrations
Herbert's Works, with Illustrations
Campbell's (Thomas) Poetical Works
Lover's Poetical Works—Illustrated
Bloomfield's Poems—Illustrated
Shakespeare's Complete Works—Illustrated
Chaucer's Poetical Works—Illustrated
Casket of Gems
Keble's Christian Year
Sanford and Merton
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*Wonders of the World.
*History of the American Revolution
The Canterbury Tales and Fairie Queene of Other Poems of Chaucer and Spencer
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This List except *"Wonders of the World and *History of the American Revolution," comprises the Library Edition in large octavo volumes, tinted paper, with steel portrait and vignette, handsomely bound, Roxburgh style, gilt tops. These books are elegant in all respects, and retail at from $2.50 to $4.00. There are no better or handsome books than these manufactured.

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News of the Week.

WASHINGTON.

The following is a synopsis of the Finance bill, introduced by Judge Poland, of Vermont. It represents the essential features of the compromise proposed by eastern men:

Section first repeals all acts limiting the amount of bank circulation.

Section second provides for issuing circulation to all banks which may be duly organize under existing laws, and which furnish the required securities.

Section third provides that as fast as circulation is issued to banks fifty per cent. of the amount shall be retired in greenbacks, until the amount of the greenbacks shall be reduced to two hundred and fifty millions of dollars.

Section fourth authorizes the issue of four hundred millions of United States bonds at five per cent. for twenty years or four and one-half per cent. for thirty years, to be used exclusively for retiring greenbacks, and provides that every holder of greenbacks may exchange the same for such bonds, and all greenbacks thus exchanged to be cancelled.

Section fifth provides that after July 1st, 1875, the Government shall pay all United States notes in coin on presentation, and that one-half of all custom duties may be paid in United States notes.

Section sixth prohibits the payment of interest by National Banks to other National Banks on deposits, except by banks acting as redeeming agents and then only to the amount the law authorizes them to keep in reserve in the hands of such redeeming agents.

Speaker Blaine is very active in attempting to secure a compromise. A plan has been agreed upon to be submitted. It is free banking with redemption provisions similar to Foster's amendment, and the issue of a four and a half per centum thirty year gold bond, in which greenbacks may be immediately redeemed. The theory is that this bond would sell in Europe for part in gold, and thus practically appreciate greenbacks to par with gold without disaster.

The new French and American Postal Treaty was signed April 28th by the Postmaster General and the French Minister, and subsequently approved by the President. It will be forwarded to France by the Secretary of State for the final action of the French government.

The House Appropriation Committee has finished the pension bill, appropriating nearly $30,000,000. The bill was cut down $500,000, to come out of the expense of collection. There is no reduction of the amount for pensions.

Mr. Parsons, by unanimous consent, presented his resolutions instructing the Banking Committee to report a bill in favor of free banking. This plan he has advocated in private consultation with members all the session. The resolution provides: First, for free banking, circulation secured by five per cent. gold bearing bonds; Second, for every dollar of National Bank currency issued, fifty per cent. of legal tender notes to be retired and destroyed; Third, when the legal tender notes outstanding shall be reduced to two hundred and fifty millions the Government shall redeem its notes on presentation in gold or silver; Fourth, upon resumption of specie payment the National Banks shall at once redeem their notes in gold or silver or legal tenders.

Attorneys representing both parties in the Arkansas dispute for the Governorship have called on the Attorney General, and will submit written arguments in support of ther respective claims. The decision of the President will be made after a thorough consideration of the arguments presented. Attorney General Williams will prepare an opinion for the President.

The House Committee on Commerce have completed the River and Harbor bill. Owing to the financial condition of the Government the Committee have concluded not to report in favor new works, but confine their recommendations to the preservation and completion of those already commenced. Among the largest items of appropriations in the bill are the following: Harbor of Refuge, Chicago, $75,000; Harbor of Refuge, Calumet, Ill., $25,000; Michigan City, $50,000; Grand Haven, Mich., $50,000; St. Mary's Falls Canal, $200,000; Harbor of Refuge, Lake Huron, $75,000; Toledo, $75,000; Cleveland, $30,000; Buffalo Breakwater, $75,000; Harbor of Refuge, Oswego, $75,000; Falls of St. Anthony, $50,000; Upper Mississippi, $26,000; Des Moines Rapids Canal, $400,000; Rock Island Rapids, $50,000; improvement of the Mississippi, Missouri and Arkansas Rivers, $100,000; removing the Red River raft, $50,000; improving the mouth of the Mississippi River, $30,000; Mobile harbor, $75,000; White River, above Jacksonport, $50,000; Osage River, $25,000; the Mississippi River, between the mouths of the Ohio and Missouri, $200,000; Ohio River, $150,000; improvements of the Great Kanawha, $25,000; Upper Monongahela, $25,000; Tennessee River, above Chattanooga, $25,000 and below Chattanooga, including Mussle Shoals, $100,000; Fox and Wisconsin Rivers, $300,000; Duluth harbor, $10,000. The bill authorizes about 40 surveys to be made, 15 of them in the South. The amount of appropriations is $4,500,000, or $1,000,000 less than the amount of the bill reported to the House last year.

The House Judiciary Committee has agreed upon a report to be presented to the House to cover all the disabilities in regard to oaths, etc., necessary to be taken by those living in the South during the rebellion when applying for bounties, pensions, payment of contracts, etc. The report sets forth, that as the general acts of amnesty and laws of the United States have exempted property from confiscation, there can be no just reason for adhering to laws which prevent creditors of the United States from receiving their just dues, as such impediments naturally confiscates a person's property in the shape of debts due. The report accompanies a bill which repeals all laws discriminating against those who, on account of participation in or sympathizing with the late rebellion, were debarred from receiving their claims.

The Senate Finance Committee, at a special meeting on the 30th, had the House currency bill under consideration. The Committee agreed that it ought to be amended by omitting the section which proposes to repeal the present law reducing the proportion of circulation to bonds deposited as security according to the amount of capital of the various National Banks. An interchange of views disclosed a certainty that the Committee will recommend that all reserves for circulation should be abolished. The other important question involved in this bill and in general financial subjects are yet to be treated on by the Finance Committee.

The House Committee of Postoffices and Post Roads is preparing a bill which will be ready at the next call of the committee providing for the reduction of postage on the agricultural report and other printed matter of that size. The present rate of postage for such books is from forty to forty-eight cents, and it is proposed in the new bill to so reduce the postage as to make them cost only from ten to twelve cents each. This will bring their distribution within such limits that they can be sent over the country to the number asked for by the Committee on Agriculture, viz: 255,000 copies. There is no doubt about the bill passing the House, and the concurrence of the Senate may be depended upon, as Senators have generally expressed themselves in favor of printing the desired number whenever the House will provide some method of distributing them.

The public debt statement shows a decrease during April of $2,900,000.

The testimony for the defense in the Howard case closed on the 1st, the Judge Advocate offering rebutting testimony, which the Court declined to hear. General Howard submitted a written statement. The court then adjourned till Tuesday, when the counsel for the defense will make the final argument. On the following Thursday, the Judge Advocate will close the case on behalf of the government, after which the court will make up its decision, and the whole matter be referred to the President.

The Senate has confirmed the nomination of Phillip Clayton, of Georgia, to be Consul at Valparaiso. Clayton was Assistant Treasurer to Howell Cobb, under Buchanan's administration, and both resigned office at about the same time to take part in the rebellion. Clayton occupied the position of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury under the Confederate Government for about a year, when he resigned.

Commissioner Drummond has retired from the General Land Office, leaving it in charge of Chief Clerk Curtis until his successor is appointed. Drummond will remain in this city and become a partner in the law firm of Britton & Gray.

The Committee on Ways and Means will, on the 4th, make a report in what are called the Sanborn cases. So far as can be verbally ascertained, they recite the law and give a narrative of the transactions under it as derived from the testimony. The Kelsey contract being the first that was made, is given at length as a specimen of all the contracts, the phraseology of all being similar. They discussed the orders given under the signature of Secretary Boutwell, addressed to the Assessors and Collectors of Internal Revenue, directing them to assist several contractors in such a way as they may ask, in the examination of their books. The Committee condemn the order on the ground that instead of the Internal Revenue officers assisting Sanborn and others, they should have assisted the officers. The Committee find some fault with the unsatisfactory character of the evidence of the officers of the Treasury Department, some of them having endeavored to evade the responsibility connected with the preparation and making of contracts. The Committee do not find that any of these officers were, in what they did, influenced by any corrupt or personal motive, and in concluding their report recommend the repeal of the law under which the contracts were made, and that the contracts be annulled.

It is said that Vice President Wilson has called upon the President to oppose the appointment of Secretary Richardson to the Court of Claims or to a foreign mission, and that Wilson represented that it would be a Butler appointment, of which Massachusetts has enough.

The committee has reported favorably upon the bill making it obligatory upon the President to place upon the retired list of the army any officer whose name shall have been borne upon the army register for forty-five years, or who shall be sixty-two years of age, provided that the General of the army and Lieutenant General shall be exempted from the provisions of this act. The committee amended the bill by striking out the clause making the bill applicable to the marine corps.

THE EAST.

Arthur B. Leech, in behalf of the Irish Team, has accepted the conditions imposed by the Amateur Rifle Club, and agreed to bring over not less than twenty-four men to shoot in the match next fall.

A dispatch from London says the mails of the steamship Amerique have arrived. They were found in an abandoned boat, which was picked up in latitude 47 degrees north, longitude 7 degrees west, by the bark Ostepia, which arrived at Havre on the 27th, from New Orleans. The mails are somewhat damaged by water.

At Boston, Mass., April 29, the City of Boston's tribute to the memory of Charles Sumner took place in Music Hall. Although the weather was rainy and tempestuous, the hall was filled and tickets were in such demand that twenty dollars were refused for a single one. The audience included the City Government, State Legislature, Executive Departments, Judges of Courts, and prominent persons from other States. The platform presented a beautiful display of flowers.

The programme of the exercises previously published was carried out. Wendell Phillips, who had just returned from the funeral of his sister, wife of Rev. Dr. Blogden, which took place at noon at Mt. Vernon Church, was present, and in a few eloquent words, introduced the orator of the day, Senator Carl Schurz. The oration will fill from eight to ten newspaper columns.

Joe Waltz, the murderer, who was sentenced to be hanged at Catskill on the 1st, killed his keeper, Charles Ernst, in his cell at 3 o'clock on the 30th, by striking him on the head with a piece of iron, smashing in his skull. During the past week Officer Ernst has guarded Waltz in his cell in order that he should commit no injury to himself. The murder had been committed some time before it was discovered. George Olney, with a reporter, went to see Waltz, and called for Ernst, but no answer being returned they looked through the cell door and saw him lying on the floor unconscious. The officer's revolver was found in the possession of Waltz. He lived only 15 minutes after medical aid was summoned. Waltz was hanged on the 2d inst., and died in the same spirit of stolid bravado which he has exhibited since his conviction.

Col. Thomas A. Scott, of the Pennsylvania Central R. R., Vanderbilt, of the N. Y. Central R. R., McCollough, of the Baltimore & Ohio R. R., and President Wilson, of the Erie R. R., have had a conference in New York on the subject of passenger and freight rates between the West and the East, and to do away with the present competition for business.

THE WEST.

At Indianapolis, Ind., April 28, the motion made by the Prosecuting Attorney at Lebanon, Indiana, to enter a nolle prosse. in the case of Mrs. Nancy E. Clem, on her fifth trial for the murder of Jacob Young and wife, was sustained by Judge Palmer. Mrs. Clem is now at liberty.

At San Francisco, Cala., the wholesale liquor dealers of that city have perfected their organization for the purpose of protecting customers in the interior from crusaders and operative local opposition, and will raise a large fund to defray the expense of fighting both in the Courts.

At Milwaukee, May 2d, Governor Taylor issued a proclamation having reference to the resistance of the railroads to the law of last winter. He recites that such a law was passed and approved; that the competency of the Legislature to regulate railroads was considered, and that the St. Paul and Northwestern companies have announced their determination to operate their roads without reference to the provisions of the act.

This he says is at once a source of profound regret from a marked contrast with the patience and submission exhibited by the people in the presence of what they have deemed the unjust and burdensome exactions of the Railroad Companies in the past, and if persisted, in it must seriously disturb business and greatly imperil the industries of the State. The proclamation concludes as follows:

I therefore enjoin all railroad corporations, their officers and agents, peaceably to submit to the law, for since the Executive is charged with the responsibility of seeing that the laws are faithfully executed, all functions of his office will be exercised to that end, and for this purposes he invokes the aid and co-operation of all good citizens.

The Publishers' Board of Trade, of New York, adjourned on the 2d, after a two days' session. Among the delegates were representatives from Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago and Louisville. It was agreed to withdraw traveling agents for two years.

A dispatch says: The officials of the Chicago & Northwestern and the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Companies at Milwaukee state that they have the united opinions of Judge B. R. Curtis, of Boston, and Hon. Wm. Evarts, of New York, that the Wisconsin railroad law which these companies have decided to contest is clearly unconstitutional.

The points of Judge Curtis' opinion are briefly: That the law attempts, arbitrarily, to fix the charges for the use of labor and material by a Railroad corporation acting as a common carrier, a right not belonging to the State. Second, that certain sections of the law amount to partial confiscation of the Railroad's property, without making provision for adequate compensation therefor, or, at least, providing means for ascertaining what amount such compensation should be or how it should be paid.

3. If the effect of law when enforced and put into practical operation shall be to reduce the earnings of railroad corporations owning and operating lines in the State under the general charters, to such a point as to render it impossible for such corporations to pay interest on bonds issued by them, the result would be on the part of such companies a violation of their contracts with their bondholders, and the State has no right to interfere with contracts between railroad companies and a third party; always provided that such contract is within the legal powers of such corporation.

The opinions are not yet published, and the points made by Mr. Evarts are not yet known.

The Roman Catholic Archbishops are arriving in Cincinnati to attend the Convention of all the Archbishops of the United States, to be held this week. The object of the Convention is not promulgated yet, but is supposed to be for the purpose of considering the advisability of increasing the number of Archbishops.

THE SOUTH

At Nashville, Tenn., April 29, the colored State Convention convened in that city. Only 17 counties were represented. Edward Shaw, of Shelby, was elected President; W. F. Yardley, Wm. Sumner and J. N. Moon, Vice Presidents; Samuel Lowery and W. H. Longfellow, Secretaries. During the organization, several able speeches were made in favor of equal rights.

The following resolutions were offered by Samuel Lowery, and referred to the Committee on Resolutions:

WHEREAS, It has been asserted without authority, and unwarrantably that the colored citizens of Tennessee and the South do not want civil rights, with impartial school privileges to all the colored children of the South in the public schools, and all other privileges demanded and allowed in the civil laws, this Convention of colored citizens repel indignantly, and with contempt, the misanthrope who would seek to foster and fetter with prejudice our children and posterity, and we earnestly invoke the National Congress to pass the Civil Rights bill, giving our children impartial school privilege in every public school, State or National, throughout the United States, and deny any the privileges for invidious distinctions against our race in any of the institutions of the country; and present our thanks to General Benjamin F. Butler, of Massachusetts, for his management of the bill in the House of Representatives of the United States, and so ably vindicated by the lamented Charles Sumner.

Resolved, That this convention of colored men of Tennessee, appoint a committee to prepare a plan to establish a monument to our lamented friend, the Hon. Charles Sumner, the Apostle of true liberty and civil rights to the colored citizens of the United States, in the State of Tennessee, as a mark of our gratitude and respect for his earnest and humane labors in behalf of our race during his public life until his death.

At St. Louis, April 29, the Cotton Association of that city decided to offer premiums aggregating the amount of $1,000, for cotton exhibited at the annual fair at St. Louis of the Agricultural and Mechanical Association, next October. The States to be invited to compete for the prizes are Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, Indian Territory, and that part of Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi lying north of the thirty-second parallel of latitude. There will also be a grand sweepstake premium offered for the best bale of cotton grown in the United States.

At New Orleans, Louisiana, State Senator Alexander Barber and Bradford R. Davis, both colored, have brought suits against the Louisiana Jockey Club, each claiming $5,000 damages because, as the petitioners aver, said club refused to sell them quarter stretch badges during the recent races, on account of their color, they being of African descent. That such refusal and exclusion were not only in violation of the principles of natural justice, but also of rights guaranteed to them by the constitution and statutes of the State.

Shepherd & De Wolf, of New Orleans, Louisiana, have made a proposition to its St. Louis merchants that if sufficient freight is guaranteed by them to justify the venture, they will put on a line of steamships between St. Louis and Rio Janeiro, touching at all important intermediate points. They also propose to make advances on shipments and arrange for the investment of the proceeds in coffee or other products of that country, if desired.

At Memphis, Tennessee, May 2, there was considerable excitement over the action of the Board of Aldermen in refusing to concur in the resolution of the Common Council to donate $10,000 to the sufferers from the overflow. The *Avalanche* says the defeat was due to the opposition of Aldermen A. J. White and Andrew Davis, the first of whom talked about paying city bonds, and the latter delighted in reminding the public that Mississippi and Arkansas did very little for Memphis during the yellow fever plague. Had either urged legal objections against the appropriation of money, the argument would have been at least respectable, but the objections urged by them were in all kindness not only contemptible but unchristian.

At a meeting of stockholders of the St. Louis & Iron Mountain Railroad on the 1st, 124,000 out of 143,000 shares of stock were voted in favor of consolidation with the Cairo & Fulton Railroad. A meeting of the stockholders of the latter Road will be held at Little Rock, Ark., Monday next to ratify or reject the meeting of to-day.

At St. Louis, May 4th, the Democrat's special from Little Rock says Judges Searle and Bennett of the Supreme Court were arrested on their arrival by the Memphis train at Argenta, opposite Little Rock, by Captain Williams, acting under orders from Governor Baxter. The judges refused to be arrested without proper authority, whereupon Capt. Williams signalled to a band of armed men, who entered the cars with drawn revolvers and Searle and Bennett were forcibly taken from the train, and up to the time of writing the dispatch had not been heard of in Little Rock. The Supreme Court was to have convened in Little Rock. Judge Stephenson was also on the train, but it seems his presence on the train was not known or he too would have been arrested. The affair created great excitement in the Brooks camp, and serious trouble is apprehended unless Col. Rose interferes for the release of the Judges.

At Memphis, April 4 advices from Prentiss, Miss., state that a levee broke Saturday night one and a half miles below there; also at Glencoe, 60 miles below Prentiss, while another crevasse is hourly expected at Prides. The water is pouring through the crevasse at Catfish Point, which is now 150 yards wide. A private levee at Walnut Bend, Ark., has also broken, inundating Fall's, Furgusan's and other rich plantations. The two named had over 1,100 acres of cotton planted. Appeals come from below Napoleon for more supplies for the sufferers. The Relief Committee are busily engaged in filling orders.

FOREIGN.

Great Britain.

The *Times*, commenting on the failure of the Senate to pass the currency bill over the President's veto, remarks that it is probable the danger of increasing the paper currency has been permanently avoided, and advises the substitution of Treasury currency for the present National Bank issues.

At the last meeting of the Royal Geographical Society of London, an honorary fellowship was conferred on Stanley, who had hitherto received only the Society's medal.

Spain.

At Bayonne, April 29, dispatches from the seat of war state that General Concha is moving with twenty thousand men on Valmaseda with a view of attacking the Carlists at Bilbao in the rear, and Serrano will attack simultaneously in front. The Carlists are reported to be strongly intrenched.

Official dispatches from Madrid announce that fighting was resumed before Bilbao, Wednesday. Some advanced positions of the Carlists have been captured by the Republican forces, with slight loss.

At Madrid, May 1st, information was received of the defeat in the province of Garragona of two thousand Carlists by forces of National troops mustering only 900 men. The Republicans have lately defeated and disposed of several bands of Carlists in Arragon and Albacete.

At Madrid, May 2d, official advices received announce that the Republican troops have entered Bilbao, the Carlists retreating in great disorder. The news created intense excitement in Madrid.

Advices received at the Spanish Embassy at London confirm the report of the entry of the Government troops into Bilbao; but the latest telegrams received in London from the Carlist sources, state that Serrano entered Portugalete Friday afternoon, and immediately marched for Bilbao. The Carlists were concentrated between Portugalete and Bilbao, and a desperate battle began at 5 o'clock Saturday morning, the result of which has not yet been reported. In the meantime the Carlist siege batteries redoubled their fire on Bilbao.

A dispatch from Bayonne says the Carlists deny the truth of the Madrid report that the Republican troops had entered Bilbao, and claims that the Carlist army still occupies formidable positions at Barracaide, Rarreza, and Castransona, where they are disputing the advance of Marshal Serrano.

A special dispatch from Santander to the London Times says a deputation of volunteers from Bilbao visited General Manuel de la Concha, who had been operating in the rear of the insurgents, and informed him that the Carlists had retired. Concha immediately communicated the intelligence to Marshal Serrano, and the latter replied by telegraph, granting to Concha the honor of first entering Bilbao.

A decree has been issued in Madrid calling for a levy of all persons liable to military duty over 19 years of age.

Additional dispatches state that General Concha, who left the seacoast several days ago with 20,000 men to attack the Carlists in the rear, gained the heights on the left bank of the River Mevian, above Sopuerta. The Carlist General Andechaqua was killed in the engagements previous to the deliverance of Bilboa by Serrano's troops. The Church in San Pedro Anbanto was nerly demolished by the fire of the Republicans.

A dispatch says: Marshal Serrano entered Bilbao Saturday. There is great rejoicing here over the deliverence of the city. Saturday evening there was a general illumination. The municipality have sent congratulatory dispatches to Serrano and Concha.

Additional dispatches from Bilbao state that parties of Carlists are surrendering in hope of amnesty. The main body, however, is retreating in disorder in the direction of the Province of Guipezcoa.

Bilbao is reuming its wonted appearance, and trade is reviving.

The obstructions placed in the river Nevion to prevent the approach of the Government war vessels, were removed yesterday.

The priest lately discharged from the lunatic asylum where he had been an inmate, attempted to assassinate Senor Pi Y Margali. He shot twice at Margali, and, missing him, shot himself, fatally.

France.

A Paris letter writer says: Evidently difficulties are fast closing in about us, and every day we have some fresh cause for reflecting upon the insecurity of the moment. The spirit which animated the Communists is very far from being crushed. Some men are once more organizing for another attempt, just as they did before 1848 and in 1871. Societies of workingmen are formed in each Arrondisment, under the direction of District Committees, which take their orders from the Control Committee. The next step is to bind the men by making them saleclarie in all dangers and benefits, and by an element of secrecy, always attractive to the uneducated. Members of the society who have work are privately taxed, and one-half of the proceeds are added to the sinking funds reserved for the war budget, the rest goes to aid those who are out of work and in distress.

Just before the war matters had reached a stage where we find them to day, and Couzat was selected as the best point for beginning the strikes. This time the strikes are to be encouraged in Paris. Certainly that septennate must come to an end one day or another, and the belief that it will not last long gives the Chiefs of the International an opportunity for saying that it will be succeeded by another Commune.

Germany.

A letter from Berlin says that it was the evident purpose of the Liberals in voting, to fix the military strength of Germany for seven years, to enable the Emperor to be prepared for any hostile demonstrations. President MacMahon is to exercise his powers in France. The letter further says that the addition of some 40,000 men to the regular army is a fact which carries its own explanation, but the effect of this increase on the available military material of the country involves another calculation.

Besides the three years he serves under the flag the recruit serves nine years in the reserve and land-wehr. The increase of 85,000 to the permanent army, implies a yearly addition of the same number to the trained reserve, this amounts in seven years to 280,000 men, or rather since the effect of the increase will be felt on the reserve only after the expiration of three years from the beginning of the new levies, 160,000 will represent that addition, while 120,000 more will be still in active service. In other words, in 1881 Germany will be able to meet France with nearly 300,000 more skilled soldiers than to-day.

Japan.

From the Japan Gazette, April 11th, the following news is taken:

Sharp shocks of earthquake have been felt at Hamadakan, causing great alarm among the inhabitants.

Daiga, Commandant of the fleet to Formosa sailed from Yokohama on the 9th of April. About 100 troops are in the expedition. The fleet will rendezvous either at Fochow or Amsy. A new department has been established by the Government to look particularly after Formasan affairs.

Yeto, late leader of the rebellion in Saga, has been captured with nine other Insurgents. All were sent to Saga.

Considerable anxiety was felt at Nagaski for the safety of the American steamer Monehua, which left there for Shanghai on March 15, and had not arrived there March 21. It is supposed she had to anchor on account of heavy gales.

The sugar crop in the Phillipines, owing to the heavy rain, will probably be very short.

It is reported that the United States steamer Lackawanna would visit the Strait Settlements of India, returning to Nagaski after the cruise.

The Flood on the Lower Mississippi.

The Captain of the steamer Iberia, in a report recently to Mr. T. Tupper, Agent of the Attakapas Mail Transportation Company, says that in coming between Bayou Teche April 28th, he took on sugar at Oaklawn, direct from the sugar-houses, on the bow of the boat. All the Fausse Point is under water from seven miles above New Iberia. The water of Grand Lake is only 150 yards from flowing over the east bank of the Teche. From Atchafalaga to New Iberia families are pouring in from all quarters, and settling on the highlands. Large plantations have been abandoned on the east side of the Teche, where 500 hogsheads of sugar would have been made. They now only hope to save seed. Portions of the towns of Franklin, New Iberia and St. Martinsville are under water. The water is running over the Morgan Railroad for a distance of bout 25 miles from Boasheare. The streets of the latter town are covered with water.

Three men were drowned April 27th, at the Pearl River crossing of the Mobile & New Orleans Railroad. Superintendent Scranton, of this Road, says it will take 30 days to repair the damage by the recent flood, and get the Road in thorough order.

The river at Yazoo City is declining slowly. Reports from all points above, show the Yazoo, Tallahatchie and Yallabusha rivers to be falling. Greenwood, on the Tallahatchie is entirely submerged, the water being higher now than in 1867. No serious damage has as yet resulted from the Hushpuckana crevasse. Fears of a general overflow are subsiding.

A few more days of dry weather, with the tremendous current now in the river, will suffice to carry off nearly all the water covering the table lands. Only a little over one-third of the lands are now under water. Merchants and planters are quite nopeful, and the indications are that the crops in the Yazoo Valley will not be so alarmingly short after all.

Jacksonport, Clarendon and Indian Bayou, on White River, are inundated. The officers of the St. Genevieve report the whole country from Shipwith's Landing to the mouth of the Yazoo under water, and great destitution among the inhabitants. The river is rising slowly.

The Alabama River is falling slowly. The damage done is great, and between Selma and Mobile a large cotton area is under water. The scarcity of cotton seed will prevent the replanting of the crop.

Many reports have been sent from Memphis in reference to the overflow, partaking somewhat of a sensational character, as for instance, the damage at Osceola, Ark., where it was stated that the levee had broken, and the town inundated, and the inhabitants in a perilous condition, when the fact was, a small traverse levee had broken and partially flooded the town to the depth of 10 inches. A brief review of the entire situation may prove interesting. From Cairo to Memphis steamers cannot make landings on the west bank except at the wharf boat, and yet with the exception of Osceola no serious damage to planting interests has resulted. From the Louisiana line up, there are no levees on the Arkansas side except local ones, and a large portion of the country is subject to inundation and sparcely settled, as is the case opposite Memphis, where the river spreads out to the highlands. Near Madison, a distance of over 40 miles, the St. Francis Valley is generally a foot above the overflow, and the planters are waiting for dry weather to begin planting. The river valley is inundated up to Indian Bay, but for the reasons already given, the damage is light. Ten thousand dollars will probably cover the loss of stock, &c. The Arkansas valley is overflowed considerably, but like the others the damage is light, and $15,000 will probably cover the damage there. From the mouth of the latter down to where the greatest damage resulted, and where destitution undoubtedly exists among all classes, but particularly laborers and their families, large portions of the Tallahatchie and Yallabusha bottoms have been overflowed for some time, but at the latest accounts the water was subsiding; but another crevasse is reported at Catfish point, making the fourth in that vicinity, though as yet but few plantations have been injured. Sunflower River has so far carried off the main body of water escaping through the Hushpuckana Crevasse, and Deer Creek plantations have not suffered materially; but from Milliken's Bend, 25 miles above Vicksburg, is where the greatest damage has been, and where the greatest destitution and suffering prevails.

Under the auspices of the Cotton Exchange, Memphis has been divided into districts, and Committees appointed to canvass for money for the sufferers from the overflow.

The citizens are making good progress in forwarding supplies to the sufferers, and have established agencies from Napoleon to Vanclusa Landing, having heretofore sent relief to those above Napoleon. May 1st they sent by the Capitol City 10,000 pounds of bacon, 90 bales of hay, 100 sacks of corn, 75 barrels of flour, and 100 barrels of meal.

Several steamers from below arrived at Memphis on the 3d, but bring little additional information concerning the overflow. The pilots of the City of Vicksburg report the country back of Australia, inundated, probable from Hushpuckana crevasse. Dr. Tibbett's plantation, just below Lake Providence, and Vesten's and Tucker's just above, are overflowed; also that back of Dinch's Lake. There is much suffering and destitution not heretofore reported throughout the inundated region. Stock is huddled [illegible] on the tops of levees, on [illegible] of lands, and those not starving are being killed by the buffalo gnats. Parties from Kilgour reports the water falling along the coast below Natchez, but it should be borne in mind that the suffering of the people will not end with the decline of the water, as very many of them have lost everything and are without food.

The river is now stationary, within 10 inches of the flood of 1867.

Methodist Conference.

The General Conference of the M. E. Church South assembled at the Public Library Hall, Louisville, Ky., on the 1st inst.

About 300 delegates, representing every Southern State except Virginia, are in attendance, including all of the six Bishops. Rev. Dr. Paine, as Senior Bishop, presides.

Dr. T. O. Summers, Nashville, was re-elected Secretary. The standing committees were appointed in the afternoon.

A delegate offered resolutions providing for the appointment of a committee of seven to ascertain and report upon what church edifices, parsonages, school buildings and other property are held, kept and claimed by the M. E. Church in violation of the rights of the M. E. Church, south, and under what circumstances the M. E. Church obtained possession of such property. The point being made that the resolutions were very important, its discussion was postponed until the second day.

After twenty more delegates arrived at Louisville on the 1st, and were in attendance upon the meeting on the 2d.

After prayer by Dr. Lee, the Committee on Rules made a report, recommending the adoption of the same rules as were in force at the Conference of 1870, which was concurred in, with slight changes.

Bishop Paine then addressed the Conference, saying: "I hold in my hand an important document—an address by the General Conference of Great Britain. I asked the reading of it, and appointment of a Special Committee to which it may be referred." Referred.

The address is quite lengthy, sending fraternal greetings, and reviewing the fact that the abolition of slavery removes the cause which has prevented the English Church from before seeking inter-communion with the M. E. Church, South. It continues: "It is to the United States the cause of thankfulness that nothing exists to prevent official intercourse between your General Conference and our own and we pray both Churches and both countries may be formly united within themselves by concord, and to one another by unity. We believe you, with us, firmly hold the great Christian truths which we have both received in common, and that you are striving to spread the living religion among your own people. For ourselves we trust we have not ceased to hold fast the form of sound words which has been handed down to us, in the presence of a subtle sceptic sm on the one hand, and of an increasingly audacious sacerdotalism on the other. It is our duty, and we trust it is our endeavor, to earnestly contend for the faith once delivered to the saints. Our country is being blessed at this time with unwonted visitations of the Divine Spirit; slumbering churches have been aroused; apathy has been rebuked; and we live in expectation of yet better days." The report gives figures showing the increase of Methodism in Great Britain, and closes with a prayer for the Churches of the country.

The quadrennial exhibit of the Southern Methodist Publishing House was then presented. The report says the credit of the house is excellent. Its affairs are in a prosperous condition; and its capital has largely increased in the last four years. A difference of $125,684 66 in favor of the house is reported for the past four years. The house has now a capital of $314,037 over and above all liabilities. It has a debt to the amount of $219,540, $100,000 of which is reported as bond account; the remainder of the debt must be met by debts now due to the house, and its current business. The report, which is a pamphlet of 16 pages, gives a good account of the publication made, and the circulation of the Christian Advocate.

The Standing Committee was then agreed upon, with the addition of Commissioners on Temperance and the Bible Cause.

Dr. McShearan, Missionary Secretary, presented a voluminous report. The total amount of contributions, donations, bequests, &c., from June 1st, 1870, to April 16th, 1874, amounted to $394,466. The expenses of the same period amounted to $14 339, little less than four per cent. of the cost of the whole machinery. A communication from the Rev. J. M. Lambert, Shanghai, reported the confidence of the Chinese in their false gods to have been shaken, and many cities in the interior in which a few years ago foreigners were not allowed to enter, were now occupied by Missionaries. He asked for more help to that mission.

The Crusade Movement.

Crusade matters have been quiet in Columbus, O., for some time past until Monday April 27th, and now the old time excitement is up again. Charles Wagner, proprietor of an eating and drinking house on High street, advertised a grand opening on that day, proposing to sell several drinks bearing the names of "Crusade Water," and the name of one of the prominent ladies connected with the Crusade. Upon seeing this advertisement, seventy ladies marched to his place, and a small squad, headed by Mrs. Dessellem, President of the Ladies' League, stepped into the store and said they had accepted his invitation to a free lunch, and would like a little Crusade Water. Wagner refused to give or sell them any. They then attempted to pass into the dining-room, when Wagner ordered the party from his premises. The party refused to leave, saying that he had invited the public, and they, as a part of them, had come to get their part of the good things. Wagner then seized several ladies and pushed them out of doors. He then grabbed Mrs. Dessellem by the arm and pushed her toward the door, and some of the ladies say he struck her, but several men present say he only pushed her. Wagner's wife then seized Mrs. Dessellem by the throat, while Wagner commenced his work on the other ladies. Men from the outside then rushed in, and for a time a war of words and some scuffling took place. A posse of police had arrived by this time, and the trouble was over for a time. A large crowd congregated in the street and blockaded the sidewalk. The police cleared the walk and commanded the ladies to keep moving. They obeyed this order by walking in procession up and down in front of Wagner's place. The crowd of men would have dispersed at the suggestion of the police but Wagner urged them to stay, saying that he would bail out any man arrested for obstructing the sidewalk. Wagner's men have been walking the pavement for a long time, but the crowd and the crusaders are still on duty. No further trouble is anticipated.

Ex-Lieutenant Governor Cumback, of Indiana, addressed the citizens of New Albany, Ind., on Tuesday evening, upon the subject of temperance in a speech of one hour and a half. The Opera House was crowded from pit to dome with a large audience, comprising the most influential citizens of the place, and the address was received with every mark of unbounded enthusiasm. The Governor has entered fully into the spirit of the great awakening on the subject of temperance, and has been laboring successfully for some time throughout various portions of the State. This section of Indiana is becoming more than ever aroused upon this subject, and meetings are being held in all the towns and villages.

A Convention of delegates from the various organizations of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Allegheny county, was held at the Second Presbyterian Church in Pittsburg on the 27th. The meeting was large and enthusiastic. Mrs. Stewart, of Ohio, was present, and addressed the Convention on the evils of intemperance. She urged the men to give their assistance in forwarding the temperance movement. She thought Pittsburgh should raise a fund of a $1,000,000 to aid the cause. Addresses were also made by Rev. Mr. Ellis, General G. H. Lane, and Rev. Mr. Beecher, of Cincinnati.

A mass meeting was held in Diamond Square, Allegheny City, in the afternoon. The women turned out en masse. Great enthusiasm and perfect order prevailed. Addresses were made by Mrs. Stewart, Miss Hinderman, and others.

The Markets.

Produce Markets.

NEW YORK, May 4.—Cotton dull at 17¾c for middling uplands. Flour is 5@10c better; receipts 9,000 bbls; sales 11,000 bbls; $6 35@6 85 for extra state and $6 40@7 65 for round hoop Ohio. Wheat is 2c better and in good demand; receipts 65,000 bu; sales 57,000 bu; 154@156c for No 2 Chicago; 162c for No 2 Milwaukee. Rye is quiet. Corn is firm; receipts 57,000 bu; sales 42,000 bu at 85@87c for new western mixed; 87@88c for old do. Barley is in buyers' favor. Oats firmer; receipts 22,000 bu; sales 26,000 bu at 64½@66c for mixed western; 65@68c for white. Pork is firm at $17 for new mess. Cut Meats firm. Beef nominal. Lard heavy at 10⅜@10 17-32c for steam. Whiskey 97½c. Sugar is firm. Petroleum—7⅛@7⅜c for crude and 15½@15⅝c for refined.

TOLEDO, TUESDAY MORNING, May 5.—Flour—The market is strong and prices, about as given, with Fine, $4 00; Superfine, $4 50@5 00; Extra, $5 00@5 50; Double Extra and Fancy, $7 00@8 00, and Rye flour $5 50 per bbl. Wheat—The market has ruled only fairly active, with prices generally higher, with Amber 149½c spot, 150c seller June; No. 2 nominally 141c. White Michigan Wheat quiet at 158½c; No 1 2 bringing respectively 160@159c. White Wabash Wheat did not sell. Red Wabash was quite at 156½c No 1; No 2 brought 145½c for Wabash, 148c for Dayton & Michigan and 145@148½c for Lake Shore. No 3 Red was held at 140c, without sales. Rejected Red and Spring wheat did not sell. No 2 Amber Illinois was dull, one lot selling at 150½c. Corn—The market for corn ruled better and prices are higher. High mixed sold at 75c; 75c for seller May; 73c for seller June; 74c for seller July. Low mixed, cash found buyers at 73½c. No Grade Corn was dull, 72½c being paid. Damaged Corn was held at 71c, no sales. Yellow and White Corn nominally 75 in Michigan Corn, 73½c. The market for Oats was quiet; No 1 selling at 58c; No 2 at 55½c. Michigan Oats were disposed of at 56c. Rejected Oats were offered at 53½c, without buyer. Seeds dull and prices unchanged at $5 75 for for medium clover, $6 00 for mammoth and $2 50 for Timothy per bushel. Mill feed quiet with prices a shade higher at $26@27 for bran and $28 for shorts per ton. Fine middlings $32. Corn meal and chop feed $28 per ton. Pork quiet at $17 for light and heavy mess per barrel, and $15 for butts and rumps per barrel. Hams unchanged at 12½@13c per lb. Lard, 10c for prime in barrels per lb, and 9@10c for prime in kegs per lb. Beef unchanged, $16 for light and heavy and $13 for prime mess per barrel. Tallow—6¾c for cake and mutton per lb. Butter—25@30c for fresh roll, 20@25c for fresh in kegs and 18@20c for common per lb. Fruits remain unchanged; Dried Apples, 10@11c; dried peaches, 1c@2c per lb; green apples, per bbl, $3@4. Potatoes 125c for peach blows and Early Rose, 115c for common and mixed per bu. Eggs, 15@16c for fresh in barrels and crates, per dozen. Beans, 150c for large white; 175c for small white; 100c for Navy white, per bushel. Poultry dressed turkeys 12@14c; dressed chickens, 9@10c per lb